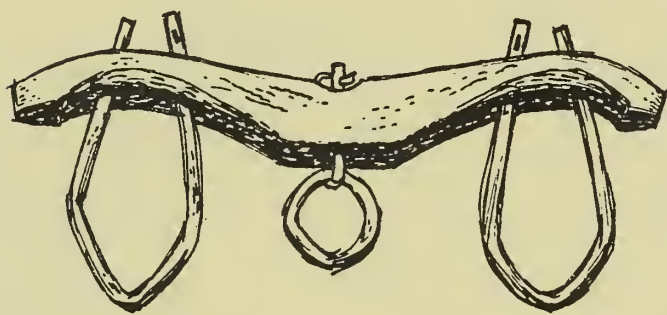


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Testimonial Edition.

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Blumhaven Digest

A review devoted to Historical Research and Opinion

Volume 4, No. 1

October, 1960



Testimonial

Edition

FOR THE

ANNIVERSARY

OF

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

AND

CENTENARY

OF THE

CIVIL WAR

Issued by

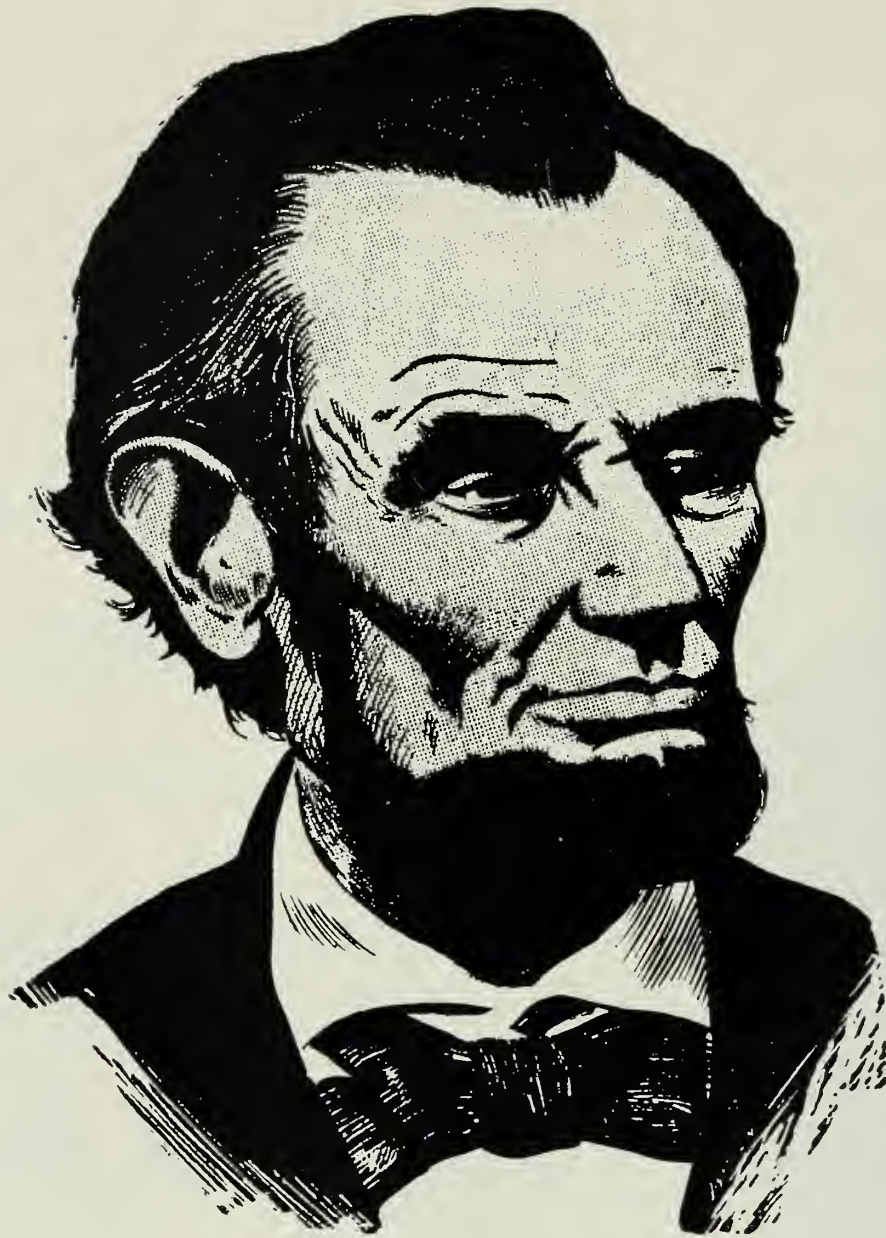
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Edited and written by HERMAN BLUM, Founder and Director

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PHILADELPHIA 24, PA.



Yes, this is he;
That brow all wisdom, all benignity;
That human, humorous mouth; those cheeks that hold
Like some harsh landscape all the summer's gold;
That spirit fit for sorrow, as the sea
For storms to beat on; the lone agony
Those silent, patient lips too well foretold.
Yes, this is he who ruled a world of men
As might some prophet of the elder day—
Brooding above the tempest and the fray.

By Richard W. Gilder

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INTRODUCTION

The Lincoln Paradox -- Self-contradictory, Yet Explainable

On May 18, 1960, it was my privilege to appear before the New Century Club of Philadelphia* to deliver an address on a subject of my own choosing. The date was the



100th Anniversary of the nomination of Abraham Lincoln by the Republican Party convention which in 1860 met in a Chicago auditorium, known as The Wigwam.

The title of my address that day was, "The Lincoln Paradox—Self-contradictory, Yet Explainable."

In May 1960, with the approach of the conventions of the two political parties of the country, it seemed timely and fitting to attempt the updating of the issues revolving

about Abraham Lincoln and the slightly befogged "new horizons" and tenuous "new frontiers" all the candidates were talking about.

Whether or not my observations about Lincoln were cogent enough to merit the notice of the United States Senate is a moot question. Certainly, the reprinting of my humble remarks in the Congressional Record is an honor and recognition of some consequence for which I am deeply grateful. And the gracious statement of the Hon. Hugh Scott, U.S. senator from Pennsylvania, requesting unanimous consent of the Senate for reprinting the speech is most flattering, but appreciated.

—HERMAN BLUM

* The New Century Club is one of the oldest women's organizations in Philadelphia. It owns its comfortable clubhouse in the heart of the city, at 124 South 12th Street. Its record of civic and social service

in Philadelphia is second to none. Mrs. Whiting Anthony was elected president early this year, succeeding Mrs. Albert W. Sanson, who served as president for eight years.



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 86th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 106

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1960

No. 124

Senate

A. 5742—CONGRESSIONAL RECORD APPENDIX, JULY 2, 1960

Herman Blum Speaks on Lincoln

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. HUGH SCOTT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE SENATE OF THE

UNITED STATES

Friday, July 1, 1960

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I would like to call to the attention of the Senate a significant address made recently by Mr. Herman Blum before the New Century Club of Philadelphia. Mr. Blum, chairman of the board of Craftex Mills, Inc., is the Pennsylvania member, advisory council, Civil War Centennial Commission; senior vice president, Lincoln-Civil War Society; and honorary member, National Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission. Since his words on Lincoln are worth even greater attention than they have been getting throughout Pennsylvania, I ask unanimous consent that the text to his address be printed in the Appendix of the RECORD.

There being no objection, the address was

ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE LINCOLN PARADOX:

SELF-CONTRADICTORY, YET EXPLAINABLE

(Address by Herman Blum, before the New Century Club of Philadelphia)

Beginning on January 8, 1961 and continuing during the following five years, the American people will observe the 100th anniversary of the Civil War. The commemorative programs planned by the *Civil War Centennial Commission*, will be conducted on a nationwide basis at grass roots level—in schools, colleges, churches and civic organizations.

You ask: "What do we expect to commemorate about this tragic period of our national life?"

Certainly, not the blood-shed, not the strife or the hatred and discord occasioned during the war period.

What we are seeking to remember is that it was the brave men and women on both sides of the line who sacrificed their all to keep this nation united as it is today. We also want our young people to bring into proper focus the record of the years between 1860 and 1865. And part of that record should be our ardent desire to pay tribute to the men, who fought to settle the greatest issue America ever faced!

I

We cannot commemorate the Civil War,* however, without recognizing the overwhelming impact of one man upon that conflict. That man was Abraham Lincoln. For Abraham Lincoln WAS the Civil War! More than anyone or anything else, it was his personality, purposes, politics, policies and over-all strategy that dominated and directed that struggle.

A Confederate General once summarized his conclusions about the Civil War like this:

"We were never out-fought, the truth is that we were simply OUT-THOUGHT."

In this connection note what Lincoln said in his Gettysburg Address:

"The brave men who fought here . . ."
He didn't say, "The brave UNION men who fought here . . ."

It was Lincoln's magnanimous thinking which recognized the HEROISM of all the men who fought in the war—Rebel as well as Union—that was the decisive factor in bringing the Civil War to a conclusion. It was his thinking that robbed the South of the will to continue the fight and laid the foundation for basic reconciliation.

II

Now, what can I tell you about Abraham Lincoln that 5,000 books written about him have not already told? What is there about this man that makes people understand him and take him into their hearts? What is there about him that commands the reverence of all classes of people, of all creeds and races in all the nations of the earth?

I will not attempt a categorical answer to these questions. Perhaps there is no logical explanation of the Lincoln phenomena.

Be that as it may, it is an inglorious per-

sonal experience of mine that answers some of these questions. The incident I am recalling will also make the humble background of our 16th president a little more understandable and less astonishing.

At the turn of the century, I was an eager-beaver cub reporter on the Chicago Tribune. I recall how excited I was about a John T. McCutcheon cartoon that appeared in The Tribune on Lincoln's birthday of that year. The Tribune's indulgent city editor tolerated my bizarre reportorial feats, but not my habitual impertinence or the squandering of my \$2.00-a-week expense allowance. Just before that city editor finally fired me from the paper, I managed to muster up enough nerve to ask the famous cartoonist to autograph a copy of his Lincoln drawing for me. And this McCutcheon did graciously.

You will appreciate how I have cherished that cartoon, when I tell you that I managed to save it all these years. After more than a half century, it still has a place of honor in the Lincoln Memorial room of our Blumhaven Library.

The McCutcheon cartoon depicts a log cabin set against a background of desolate wilderness. In the foreground, deep in a muddy rut of a forest trail, is a buckboard being dragged by an amiable mule. A mongrel dog is trotting up ahead. On the wagon seat, smoking a corn cob pipe, is a rugged backwoodsman. Sitting beside him, rigged out in calico and sun-bonnet, is his wife. Our Kentucky bushwacker points to the shack and out of the corner of his mouth, remarks to his wife:

"I heerd Nancy Lincoln's got another baby—a boy this time. Goodness knows whut she'll do with it. They kaint skessly take keer o' little Sairey as it is."

Obviously, we can't say for sure what that Kentucky backwoodsman had in mind when he made that remark about the birth of the Lincoln baby, but it could well have been the hillbilly version of the acute worry we call the *Population Explosion* today!

* Our Civil War was the first to use modern automatic arms; the first to use the submarine and iron clad steamships. More soldiers lost their lives in the Civil War than in all the other American wars combined, beginning with the revolution and coming on down to the Korean War. American deaths from all causes in all the other wars were 606,000; in the Civil War the total was 618,000.

III

Ever since that cartoon was published in the Chicago Tribune, historians have been working on the theme that the under-privileged baby, who was born in that dirt floor log cabin, had shiftless, improvident, illiterate parents. Over the years the discussion as to how Lincoln achieved greatness has gone on without let-up. Was Lincoln great *because* of his heritage? Was he great *in spite* of it? Which is fact, which is fiction? The stories about Lincoln's parentage may be summarized as follows: His parents were poor indeed; the father* however, was hardly an ignorant man, although he lacked formal schooling. His mother was an intensely spiritual woman; his stepmother, a loving parent and an inspiration to young Abe.

In short, the thing that answers all the questions about Lincoln's paternity, are Lincoln's own words. And these in substance are:

"I OWE IT ALL TO MY ANGEL MOTHER!"

This simple tribute to his mother has somehow escaped most Lincoln biographers. Lincoln's declaration of his indebtedness to his mother, however, leaves no fundamental questions about him unanswered.

IV

Today, while we are feverishly comparing the qualifications of our "undeclared" and/or "declared" candidates for the Presidency—all of whom are *Governors, U. S. Senators, or Vice Presidents*,—wouldn't it be illuminating if we could account for the paradox of Abraham Lincoln becoming OUR ONLY PRESIDENT who had never been a GOVERNOR, a U. S. SENATOR, a CABINET MINISTER, a VICE PRESIDENT, a WAR HERO, or a GREAT GENERAL?

What was there about this obscure† lawyer, who had been a postmaster of a tiny village, a humble state legislator and a one-term Congressman, that indicated he was to be the preserver of a united America? Here was a man, born in a log cabin, on a site known as "Sinking Spring Farm," deep in the wilder-

ness of Kentucky. He had less than a year's schooling, and no formal education at all. This tall, bony man arrived in Illinois in 1831, friendless, penniless, powerless, ragged and alone, *struggling for the bare necessities of life*.

And when it came time for Lincoln to make his bid for the Presidency, he had no multimillionaire to back his candidacy; there was nary a Wall Street tycoon among his sponsors. Nor did he have a combination of big city political bosses who met in a smoke-filled room to hand pick him! And no poll-taker buzzed around to make a survey for candidate Lincoln or to advise him how to alter his *personality* image to influence the voters.

Was he that well known that he didn't need organized political support to win the nomination for the Presidency? Actually, when he was nominated, he was so little known that some newspapers kept misspelling his first name as "Abram." Some of the papers printed phonetic pronunciations of his last name so people would know how to say it. He was deeply etched in the mind of the voters as a tall, awkward rail-splitter, a homespun lawyer who told stories and jokes, but could be silent and serious as well.

V

When he became a candidate for President, Lincoln bore the brunt of the attack of his political enemies. He endured personal defamation and mean references to his father and mother. Cartoonists savagely pictured him as a grotesque and almost diabolical figure.

What about his personality? His contemporaries said he was the homeliest man in

* Webster's Biographical Dictionary, 1957 issue, lists him as "an illiterate wandering laborer."

† But by no means ineffective. Lincoln is reputed to have likened his opponent for the legislature in 1833, to a river steamboat with a whistle so big and an engine so small, that when the whistle was blowing the boat merely trembled, but couldn't run. And when the engine did propel the boat, the whistle wouldn't whistle. "Now as to my worthy rival," he said, "when he speaks, he is incapable of *thinking* and when he is thinking, he is *speechless*!"

Illinois. If Lincoln were to make an appearance on television today, his rough-hewn features, framed by his shaggy beard, would scare the bejabbers out of his viewers!

Lincoln was 6 feet 4 inches tall, ungainly in his movements. He had a high pitched, thin voice, utterly different from the deep voice of those who recite his words today. He was hardly a politician's politician. He was no spread eagle, whistle-stop, give-'em-hell orator. His stump speeches were seldom extemporaneous, although he was fast and sure on his feet, could think clearly as he spoke and his delivery was engaging and at ease. While plain spoken and timely, his talks were not always movingly expressive. By no stretch of the imagination could we rate him a radio spellbinder or "image-salesman" on T.V. today.

And was the nomination of Mr. Lincoln handed to him on a platter, because nobody else wanted it? No indeed! There were powerful contenders for the nomination. Among them was William H. Seward, then U. S. Senator and former Governor of New York, and Salmon P. Chase, U. S. Senator from Ohio. He was put in nomination as the "rail-splitter and giant-killer of Illinois." On the first ballot he received 102 votes against Seward's 173½. On the second ballot there were switches to Lincoln, the vote being, Lincoln 181, Seward 184½. On the third ballot Lincoln stood 231½, Seward 180. It was then that Ohio switched the four votes needed to nominate him. When Lincoln, in Springfield, was handed a telegram telling of his nomination, the tall craggy man read it and said:

"I reckon there's a little short woman down at our house that would like to hear the news."

VI

Well then, what power did pick this undistinguished lawyer for the Presidency? How was it that this relatively untried statesman,

* Great Britain openly favored the Confederacy. Lack of forthright relations with her could have wrecked the Union cause. Lincoln supplied the discreet, vitally important diplomacy to cope with the threat of English intervention.

inexperienced in foreign affairs* or diplomacy, untrained in military science and war economy, was able to face the perils of his day and to carry out his staggering assignments? What force was it that impelled this undeveloped man to make wise decisions in frightfully crucial situations? What caused him to suddenly generate leadership which he had not shown before entering the White House? Was it the gigantic pressures of circumstances that raised this uneducated man to the highest intellectual level or *was it something else?*

Do you suppose there is such a thing as fate? Do you believe in destiny? Do you believe that *Divine Providence*, every now and then, intervenes in the affairs of our nation, to pick a man to meet a particular crisis? Are there not a number of these mystic occurrences recorded in history—outstanding events for which there is no other explanation than that Almighty God, in his wisdom, had chosen a man *as his instrument* to avert the disaster that threatened his people?

The prophets of old saw God moving through the events of their time, and they were reviled by their compatriots. Prophetic faith today is met with skepticism; communists refuse to see the hand of God in history, yet people who suffer from tyranny and exploitation, know that faith alone points the way to their redemption. In Isaiah, 14:27, it says: "The Lord of hosts has purposed and who will annul it? His hand is stretched out and who will turn it back?"

VII

The key to Lincoln's eternal position in history was the depth of his spiritual feeling. It is true he was not a member of a regular church. In Illinois he once rented a church pew, but it was Mrs. Lincoln who usually sat in it. He was never baptized or made a formal profession of faith. This has caused some to conclude that, since he was not a member of a church, Lincoln could not be considered religious. Some of his political enemies raised the religious issue and insisted on calling him an infidel. This did not dismay Lincoln, for he

was *not an unbeliever*. He was not opposed to creeds, but he did say this:

"I cannot without mental reservations assent to long and complicated creeds and catechisms. If the Church would ask simply for acceptance of the commands 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and thy neighbor as thyself'—that Church I would gladly join with."

Besides his own statement, there is other evidence that Lincoln had deep religious convictions, and constantly sought Divine guidance. Leaving Springfield for Washington, he said, "Without the assistance of that Divine Being . . . I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail." En route, he said, "I shall be happy indeed, if I shall be a humble instrument in the hands of the Almighty." He truly symbolized the passage in the Bible which makes clear the nature of true religion: "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Lincoln memorized long passages from the Bible. Perhaps no President who occupied the White House ever read the Bible as much as Lincoln. The White House guards used to find him, before he had had breakfast in the morning, turning the pages of his Bible in the small room he used for a library. His two great speeches—the Gettysburg Address and Second Inaugural, are *filled with the rich word poetry* of the King James Version of the Bible. He prayed daily and called prayer "talking with God." The day before the battle of Gettysburg, he was on his knees, praying that he might have strength and wisdom to face the crisis. In the Washington Cathedral, the beautiful bronze statue of *Houck's Kneeling Lincoln*, recalls Lincoln's remark, "that man is tallest on his knees."

William Wolf in his *The Almost Chosen People* wrote: "No American President, before or since, had as profound an understanding of the Scriptures as Lincoln." He also said, "Lincoln is one of the greatest theologians of America—not in the technical meaning of

producing a system of doctrine, certainly not as a defender of any one denomination, but in the sense of seeing the hand of God intimately in all affairs of nations."

There is no doubt in my mind as to the source of Lincoln's power. If he was not inspired of God, then there is no man who ever lived on earth who was so inspired.

From Caesar to Napoleon, from Socrates to Albert Schweitzer, men have risen step by step, according to well known principles. That is not what we call being a man of destiny. They are men of time, men of talent. The inspired men are fewer. Whence they came, from whence they get their power, by what rule they get that power, we know not. They arise from the shadow and vanish in the mist. We see them but we know them not. Where did Shakespeare get his genius, Mozart, his music, Burns, his poetry—where but from God? And from the same source came Lincoln's power to carry out his stupendous mission. It was from this same Divine source that Lincoln derived his courage, endurance, judgment and mercy. *And no story told a thousand years from now, will be received with greater interest than that which tells of the life and work of Abraham Lincoln.*

VIII

So, how does our bewildered world today react to this Lincoln story? As they experience so much uncertainty, how do our terrified young people feel about Lincoln today? Is he still the symbol of their faith to them?

In our grim struggle to capture men's minds and to win international friendships, what more persuasive argument do we have than the compassionate understanding, deep sense of justice and the humanity of the great emancipator? Today, prejudice toward minority groups, racial discrimination, segregation and religious bigotry seriously threaten the gains we have made for brotherhood since the Civil War.

In 1855 Lincoln wrote to Joshua F. Speed, his roommate of earlier days: "How can any one who abhors the oppression of Negroes be

for a party (*The Know-Nothing Party*) that favors the degrading of minority groups of other races, including some whites. Our progress in degeneracy appears to me to be pretty rapid. As a nation we began by declaring that 'all men are created equal.' We now practically read it, 'all men are created equal, except Negroes.' When the Know-Nothings get control, it will read: 'All men are created equal, except Negroes and foreigners and Catholics'."

Well, if we could invoke the spirit inherent in these early remarks of Lincoln and make our detractors believe them, perhaps we could terminate the cold war that is so relentlessly waged today. And who knows that by easing world tensions, we may by this humble means achieve the miracle of peace and final disarmament.

IX

To the people behind the iron curtains, there is one American symbol of friendship they believe in, and that is the name of Lincoln.

Today, it is in far off places—in *Amman*, in *Delfzijl*, in *Maiquetia*, in *Mymensingh*, in *Pnompenh*, in *Sakkara*—that Lincoln study societies are being organized. In India alone, there are some 150 Lincoln societies and these groups flourish and eagerly study the principles and philosophy of their hero, Abraham Lincoln. One of their immediate objectives, after organizing these Lincoln societies, is to memorize the Gettysburg address so as to be able to recite it both in their native tongue and also in English. Our State Department continually gets requests for copies of Lincoln's Gettysburg address from them. The words in this Lincoln masterpiece are easily translated. They are universally meaningful to people who yearn for freedom wherever there is oppression and tyranny. Lincoln spells out the American philosophy that in a free society a man can pull himself up by his bootstraps. He is our secret weapon and the best asset in our diplomatic pouches.

During the late lamented Hungarian uprising, crushed so ruthlessly by the Soviet, a

rebellious radio station repeatedly broadcast the Gettysburg address to hearten the freedom fighters.

Lincoln's words were part of the ferment that resulted in the bloody overthrow of Dictator Rhee in Korea; it was Lincoln's philosophy that sparked the protest marches of students in Ankara, just before the coup against dictatorial Premier Menderes.

In other lands, praise of Lincoln goes hand in hand with the denunciation of despotism. An Associated Press dispatch from El Salvador carried the news on February 10, 1960, that the Minister of Education had issued orders to the schools throughout the country to pay suitable "homage to Abraham Lincoln and to commemorate the 151st anniversary of his birth."

While the Soviet Union's official news-gathering agency, TASS, severely restricts its acclaim of Lincoln, and Nikita Khrushchev arrogantly chants "Nyet, Nyet," the Russian people fondly remember that their renowned writer Leo Tolstoy, characterized Lincoln as follows:

"Of all the great national heroes and statesmen of history, Lincoln is the only real giant. He overshadows all other national heroes. Lincoln was not a great general like Napoleon or Washington; he was not such a skillful statesman as Gladstone or the adroit Disraeli; but his supremacy expresses itself altogether in his peculiar moral power and in the greatness of his character. He had come through many hardships and much experience to the realization that the greatest human achievement is love. He was what Beethoven was in music; Dante in poetry; Raphael in painting; and Christ in the Philosophy of life."

Last year Carl Sandburg flew into Moscow without a passport. He said he "forgot it" somewhere. And, lo and behold, smiling Soviet officials made no difficulty about it at all and cordially escorted Sandburg from the airfield to the Kremlin. Was this some subconscious tribute to the famed Lincoln historian or could it be that it was deference to the Great Amer-

ican Emancipator that Sovietskaya Rossya couldn't quite suppress or its censors couldn't readily conceal?

X

When President Eisenhower visited India last year he was given a spectacular ovation. What was the meaning of this outburst on the part of those millions in India? The answer was given to me by a Calcutta newspaper editor, who is a member of the Indian delegation to the United Nations. Those multitudes, he said, were not actually paying a tribute to President Eisenhower. They hailed him as the representative of the nation that gave the world Lincoln. And logically enough, he said, they regarded their sainted Mahatma Gandhi as the spiritual heir or perhaps the reincarnation of our Abraham Lincoln.

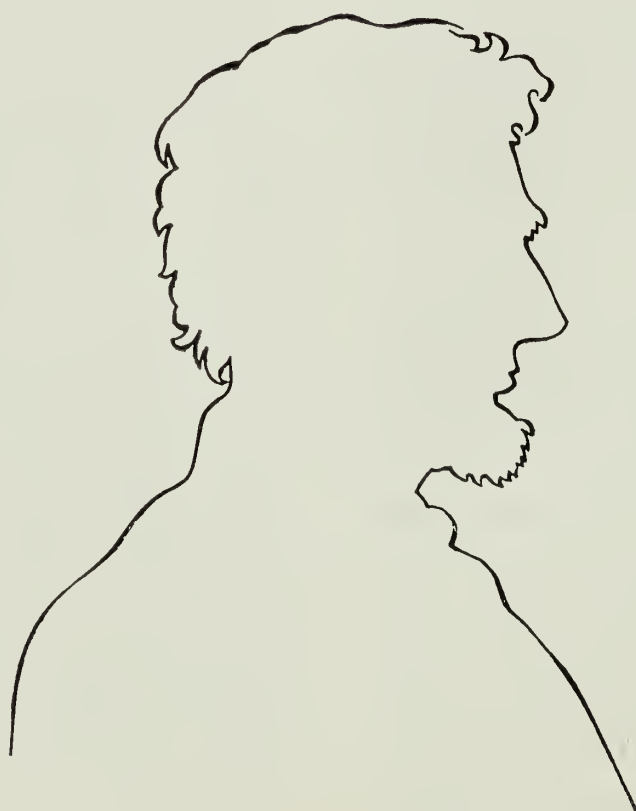
On the occasion of the 96th Anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Premier Jawah-

arlal Nehru, of India, made this remarkable statement to the Associated Press:

"As we look at a world torn asunder by suspicion, distrust and fear, and living in the shadow of terrible destructive weapons, we need more than ever to remind ourselves of Lincoln's message and learn to imbibe its spirit."

Isn't it obvious that the heritage of kindness, idealism and political wisdom left by Abraham Lincoln for our own nation, is being shared by people the world over?

If "government of the people, by the people, for the people" is not to "perish from the earth," then neighborly relations of people to people must be promoted to spread on this earth. When this is achieved, Gettysburg will be less a memorial of the past and more a preview of man's destiny in a world of peace and brotherhood.



Lincoln in "New Horizon" At 1960 Political Conventions •

Were they about to nominate him? Candidates probe archives for helpful quotations. Religion and the Presidency.

Digging deep for evidences of resemblance to Lincoln, for Lincoln sayings of appropriate application to the issues of 1960, and for Lincoln prayers that could be reasonably adapted or echoed, candidates for the Presidency, before and after their nomination by their respective parties, found the Lincoln archives a fertile field for inspiration and/or appropriation of self-serving ideas.

KENNEDY QUOTES LINCOLN

Before his nomination for the Presidency by the Democratic convention in Los Angeles, Senator John F. Kennedy, in a moving television speech, answered former President Harry S. Truman, who having committed himself to support a rival candidate, opposed Kennedy. Truman had broadcast this dramatic appeal to Kennedy:

"Senator, are you certain that you are quite ready for the country or that the country is ready for you in the role of President in January, 1961? . . . I would hope that someone with the greatest possible maturity and experience would be available at this time. . . . May I urge you to be patient?"

Answering the ex-President, Senator Kennedy said, "Mr. Truman asked me if I think I am ready. And I am reminded that 100 years ago Abraham Lincoln, not yet President and under fire from veteran politicians, wrote these words: 'I see the storm coming and I know that His hand is in it. If He has a place and work for me, I believe that I am ready.'

"Today I say to you . . . if the people of the nation want me, I am ready."

WHEN, WHERE AND HOW?

The full quotation Senator Kennedy referred to is as follows:

"I know there is a God, and that He hates injustice and slavery. I see the storm coming, and I know His hand is in it. If He has a place and work for me, and I think He has, I believe I am ready. I am nothing, but Truth is everything. I know I am right, for Christ teaches it, and Christ is God.

"I have told you a house divided against itself cannot stand and Christ and reason say the same thing; and they will find it so. Douglas doesn't care whether slavery is voted up or down, but God cares, and humanity cares and I care; with God's help I shall not fail. I may not see the end, but it will come, and I shall be vindicated and those men who oppose me will find that they have not read their Bibles right."

For the answer to the questions, when, where and how Lincoln used that quotation, we are indebted to the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress, Hugh L. Elsbree, director; to C. Percy Powell of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress and to Professor Albert L. Demaree of the History Department of Dartmouth College.

NOT IN OWN HANDWRITING

Lincoln's quotation is given in the *Lincoln Encyclopedia* by Archer H. Shaw, under the heading of religion, p. 273. According to Shaw, the statement was made by Lincoln to Newton Bateman before the 1860 election. The remarks attributed to Lincoln are also to be found in *The Life of Abraham Lincoln*, published by Joseph G. Holland in 1866, the year after the President's death. This was taken up 19 years later in the well-known biography by Isaac N. Arnold, Lincoln's old

and intimate friend of Illinois days and later, as a member of Congress during Lincoln's administration. These remarks are supposed to have been made to Newton Bateman, Superintendent of Public Instruction in the State of Illinois, whose office adjoined the Executive Chamber of the State Capitol in Springfield which Lincoln used as an office and reception room between his election and departure for Washington. He and Bateman became good friends, apparently had many confidential talks, and it is in Bateman's recollection of one of these that Lincoln's famous remarks were first set forth, and in some way communicated to Holland in time to be incorporated in his biography, issued the year after Lincoln's death.

The original Holland version, both as to quotation and setting, is set out in more detail; the Arnold version does not, however, differ substantially from Holland save in amplitude. W. H. Herndon, Lincoln's law partner and later his famous biographer, charged that the Bateman recollections were "colored." Nevertheless, Bateman himself wrote personally to Arnold of the original Holland version that "it is substantially correct." (Arnold, p. 179, p. 1).

While these remarks might not be susceptible of proof in the legal or strictly scholarly sense, since they do not exist in Lincoln's own handwriting and were not uttered in the presence of two or more witnesses, there would appear—allowing for the natural fallibility of human memory, especially after long years—to be no reason to doubt that the recollection of the man to whom Mr. Lincoln made his famous remarks is "substantially correct."

Still another quote of Senator Kennedy spurred researchers to check the old English records. In his acceptance speech, Senator Kennedy said: "Historians tell us . . . that Richard Cromwell was not fit to wear the mantle of his uncle."

Whose mantle was it that Dick did wear? There wasn't much in the history books about Richard Cromwell's *uncle*, but his *father* was Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of England.

"WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE"

Poor Mr. Lincoln's words were twisted still in another direction shortly after the Democratic convention nominated Senator John F. Kennedy for President. In his address to the convention the day after he was nominated, Senator Kennedy suggested that his Republican opponent-to-be (Vice President Nixon) played a role in public life that could be fairly described by applying to him a revision of Lincoln's memorable and beneficent words; that is, in his acceptance speech, Kennedy indicated that Nixon was the very epitome of one who held "malice toward all and charity toward none"

AMONG ELEPHANTS OF BURMA

Still another role for the "rail-splitter" of Illinois was conceived by the Republican Convention of 1960. This was as the *World Image of America*. In the address of Governor Cecil H. Underwood, temporary chairman of the Convention appears this intriguing paragraph:

"One of my associates recently attended an elaborate exhibition of water color paintings by college students in Mandalay. Most of these paintings portrayed subjects indigenous to Burma—elephants nudging logs in a teak forest; a farm family harvesting rice; religious scenes near Buddhist shrines and traditional pagodas. This vast array of *Asian art*, exhibited near the steamy jungles of central Burma, only a few miles from the Red China frontier, displayed only two pictures related to America: one, a profile of Lincoln as found on our currency; the other, Lincoln the rail-splitter.

"This exhibition was more than 12,000 miles and a hundred years removed from Illinois, but Mr. Lincoln was there. His stout character still portrays the image of American freedom."

DID THEY NOMINATE HIM?

On the third day of the Republican convention at Chicago, one of the TV broadcasting stations received this telegram: "I could only take one day of the convention.

Tell me, did they go ahead and nominate Mr. Lincoln?"

Some afterthoughts about the Chicago convention are now in order. *First*, to save time, each speaker could have been ruled out of order, if he persisted in referring to the 1860 candidate of the Republican party. *Second*, a stipulation could have been agreed upon that Abraham Lincoln *was a great guy*; that this was manifestly incontrovertible and required neither proof nor argument. *Third*, the ruling would have saved the delegates research and retrospective oratory, and the public as much as 10 hours of television time.



WHAT WOULD HE SAY TODAY?

Our 1960 political candidates may well turn to Lincoln to learn what real courage, wisdom and dedication is like. As we face the life-and-death struggle in a divided world today, we need Lincoln's philosophy and spiritual qualities to sustain us. If Lincoln were to campaign for the Presidency today, I am sure he would remind us of our obligation to support the downtrodden, wherever there is oppression. He would, of course, urge us to be on the side of those who struggle for Freedom. And actually, he would change little, if any, the appeal he made to congressional leaders on December 1, 1862:

"Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance or insignificance can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we are passing will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation. We say we are for the Union. The world will not forget that we say this. We know how to save the Union. The world knows we do know how to save it. We hold the power and bear the responsibility. In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free—honorable alike in what we give and what we preserve. We shall nobly save or meanly lose the last, best hope of earth."

F.D.R. ALSO ON HAND

The Democrats did somewhat better at their Los Angeles convention. At least their hero was visible and audible. The party's sainted F.D.R., resuscitated by movie films taken during his life time, received thunderous applause as he spoke and appeared on the screen. And his carefully selected text eloquently supported the party platform and subsequently the party's nominee.

Thus, the business of reaching back into the *near and distant past*, has had the sanction of both parties.

HOW MANY HEARD ORATORS?

The Republican convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency in 1860 was held in a cavernous Chicago audi-

torium, known at *The Wigwam*. Its seating capacity was about 7500. Close to that number of delegates, alternates and interested citizens jammed the unventilated hall, the acoustics of which left much to be desired. How many at that convention actually heard the nominating and seconding speeches will never be known.

What sort of appeal did the orators on that momentous occasion make? Was it to logic? Was it to emotion? What were the mechanics of their delivery, the science of their rhetoric?

To be sure, they had some advantages over the orator of 1960. In 1860, they were not chained to a battery of microphones or hypnotized by the visual moving transcript of their speeches. Our orator of 1860 could bounce about freely, roaming all over the stage. He could bellow, grimace, shake his fists and work himself up to a fever pitch in denouncing the perfidy of the opposition. It didn't really matter what he said, for a large percentage of his audience couldn't hear him. The important thing was to convey enthusiasm. If that was contagious, it was sufficient.

In any event, the orator of 1860 didn't have the problem of developing the correct TV image, and appealing to a semi-dozing audience in some living room thousands of miles from *The Wigwam*.

HARANGUING ALL COMERS

Lincoln was not in Chicago when he was nominated at the *Wigwam*, and afterwards, actually made no campaign speeches. His rivals, Senator Douglas and Breckenridge, did. This prompted the *Philadelphia Bulletin* to comment:

"A candidate for the Presidency stumping the country! A man thought fit to hold the destinies of this vast country in his hands, fit to occupy what is fondly called the greatest of earthly offices, traveling through the country, haranguing all comers and begging for office like a constable or a tide-waiter! To this complexion has Stephen A. Douglas brought the Presidency of the United States. Abraham Lincoln does not ask people to vote for him. He does not degrade himself and the

nation by appearing on the hustings. He is a gentleman; he is a man of dignity; he understands what is due from one who is nominated for the Presidency."

THE CROSS OF GOLD SPEECH

The convention of 1860 stirred my memory of an event 36 years later and the conversation I had about it. This was about another political convention in Chicago, still without the benefit of microphones, when the peerless orator from Nebraska, William Jennings Bryan was nominated for the Presidency by the Democratic party.

Here we had in abundance the ingredients in speechifying which always have been considered essential for the making of a successful politician. The phenomenon of 1896, however, would be more understandable if I may present here the vivid recollections of a delegate to that memorable Democratic convention. It was during the late summer of 1926 that I interviewed the aging James A. Donovan, City Clerk of Boston. The oppressive heat and humidity of the season had driven Donovan to the White Mountains of New Hampshire. In common with many others afflicted with hay fever, he sought relief from the scourge in the pollen-free atmosphere of the lofty Presidential range of New England. It was on the veranda of a Bethlehem, N. H., hotel that I first met City Clerk Donovan. In the clear, cool evenings, as the magnificent mountain sunset cast its spell over us, we often discussed subjects of mutual interest.

We exchanged ideas on Cal Coolidge, his handling of the Boston police strike, his administration, his personality. But the favorite subject was the exciting story of the Democratic convention in Chicago, which nominated Bryan for the Presidency for the first time in 1896. Donovan's delight in telling of his experiences and impressions was matched by the pleasure of his listener.

I WAS THERE

"This is the 30th anniversary of the first nomination of William J. Bryan," said Donovan. "I was a Massachusetts delegate to the

National Democratic convention in Chicago. It was on July 9, 1896, that we picked him as our candidate for the Presidency. I heard him deliver his 'Cross of Gold' speech and I shall never forget the scene and the setting for the political history that was made there."

"I am terribly interested," I said. "Tell me how you felt during his famous speech; your impression of him; your recollection of what the convention was like. Do you know that 20 years ago, I met Bryan and interviewed him for the *New York Evening Mail*. The paper didn't like the personal angle of my story and chopped down my extensive article to a couple of measly paragraphs,—the ones which criticized Teddy Roosevelt."

"All I can say is that the occasion stirred my heart," Donovan sighed. "If there is such a thing as magic, Bryan had it. He knew how to use it and used it. The Coliseum was jam-packed. I don't know how many, but many more than 10,000 men and women were there. Some were sitting and talking, some were marching up and down the aisles, milling about. The babble was deafening. Everybody was on edge, letting off steam. A number of speakers were given short shrift. The crowd howled them down and they crept off the platform. There was some 'free silver' sentiment in the Massachusetts delegation but we were not wedded to the cause. The platform plank calling for the 'unlimited' coinage of silver had just been brought up for debate. Senator Hill of New York, a Cleveland man and Vilas of Wisconsin both delivered strong arguments against the plank. The crowd jeered them and their words were unheeded or unheard in the uproar. Then a Nebraska delegate was called to the stage. His name was given us as William Jennings Bryan.

"I knew him only as a former member of Congress, where he had served two terms. I

had also heard of him as a 'free silver' orator, but I had never laid eyes on him. I recall how startled I was to see this extremely youthful looking man face that yelling mob. He was a handsome, broad-shouldered man. He stood there smiling, arms clasped, confident, patient. He had the benign expression of an evangelist and he remained silent and gestureless for the longest time, while the massed delegates yelled and stamped their feet. Then the shouting died away to a murmur and suddenly there was silence. When he opened his mouth to speak, we cupped our ears to catch his words. But that was not necessary. The convention was hushed and Bryan's resonant voice penetrated to the furthest corner of that huge auditorium. It was like a bugle call to a crusade. How that man's voice rang and echoed, will live in my memory as long as I live.

"You know the substance of his speech. When he reached the 'Cross of Gold' part of the oration, the emotion-choked delegates leaped to their feet and exploded. And Bryan was on his way to glory. It was the thrill of a lifetime. And the formalities, the nominating and seconding speeches, didn't matter at all and no one listened to them."

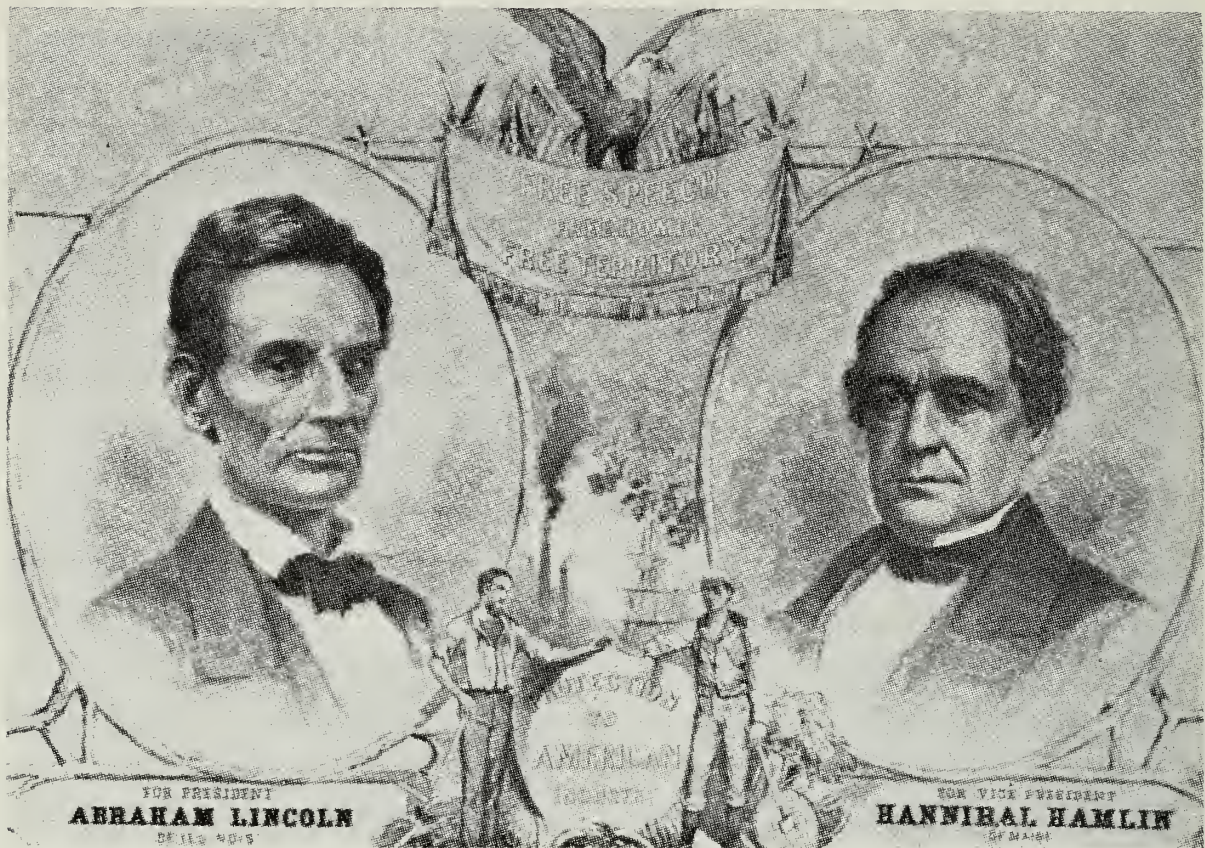
"How did you feel when you got back to Boston?" I asked him.

"Just as spellbound as I was in Chicago," Donovan replied.

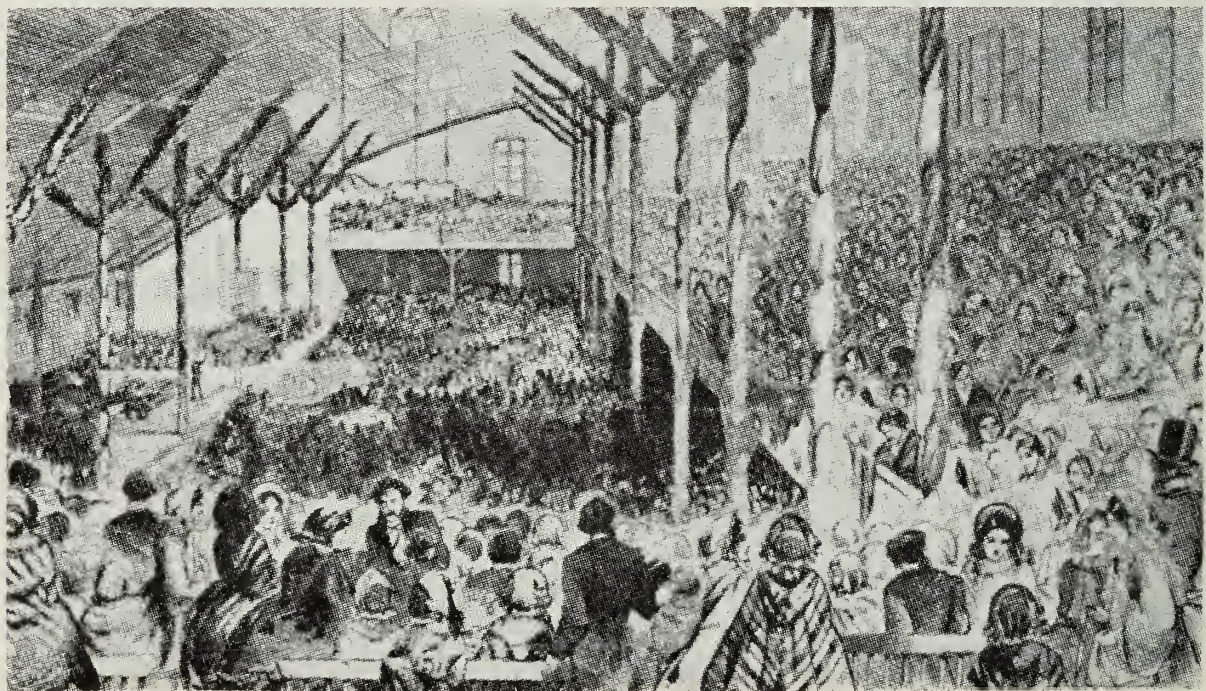
"No man ever had greater faith in our institutions than Bryan. Do you recall his letter of congratulations to William McKinley on the day following the '96 election? 'We have submitted the issue to American people and their will is law'.

"I would vote for that man all over again were he alive today. His death last year was a personal loss to me."

VOTERS SAW THESE PICTURES IN 1860



Election poster used by Republicans throughout the Lincoln-Hamlin campaign of 1860. Lithographed by W. H. Rease.



At the Republican Convention of 1860, held in Chicago, Ill., Lincoln received his party's nomination on the third ballot. Original lithographs on display in Blumhaven Gallery.

RELIGION AND THE PRESIDENCY

Discussion of the religious issue has been discouraged by both 1960 candidates for the Presidency.

Their refusal to recognize the issue is entirely sincere. Nevertheless, the question of religion is paramount with some voters and consideration of the subject is obviously widespread, and it is not confined to laymen.

Learned students of religion have expressed various views.

It is the contention of some that a devout Christian has never attained the Presidency in the past and in all probability will not do so in the future; that strong Presidents have not been strong Christians. The reason given for this conclusion is that a strong President is required to make too many decisions and compromises that violate Judaeo-Christian teachings. In political campaigns, presidential candidates must come to terms with political deals that violate their conscience.

Warren B. Martin, professor of Religion at Cornell College in Iowa, recently declared:

"Intolerance is the frequent concomitant of deep religious faith and faith loses force as tolerance grows. Because our heterodox society requires that the President be a tolerant man, it follows that a determined Christian would be a weak President and that a strong President must be (and historically has been) a weak Christian.

"In national crises," he continues, "the President must participate in the dissemination of propaganda that is at best only partially true and is, moreover, the stuff that feeds suspicion and hate. The U-2 fiasco is a case at point.

"The President must greet and support men and governments that flagrantly violate Christian and democratic principles.

"In the face of political pressure to do these things, there probably can be no 'reconciliation' of the ways of God and the ways of man in the person of the President."

The Christian Century magazine, an undenominational Protestant weekly, disagrees with this view. Its editorial appearing in the August 17, 1960 issue declared, "We sympathize with the professor's respect for competence in politics, but cannot accept his implication that vital faith necessarily constitutes an insuperable obstacle to such competence. For example, Abraham Lincoln was a man of strong religious conviction and also a strong President."

A SECULAR INSTITUTION?

Evangelist Billy Graham, according to the Associated Press, insists religion is a legitimate issue in the presidential campaign and it could be decisive in the election.

"The election causes some difficulty for Protestants," he said, "because the Catholic church is not only a religious but also a secular institution with its own ministers and ambassadors."

Repudiated and officially disowned, however, is the whispering campaign of extremists that there is the possibility of Papal dictation over the White House.

And on behalf of a group named the National Conference of Citizens for Religious Freedom, it was asserted that "A Roman Catholic President would be under extreme pressure from the hierarchy of the Church" to align U. S. foreign policy with Vatican goals.

ISSUE DENOUNCED

President Eisenhower, however, denounced religion as a campaign issue and strongly repudiated partisans who use it as such.

Vice President Richard M. Nixon, Republican candidate for the presidency, on the other hand, conceded that the religious issue was a difficult subject to eliminate from the campaign, because even a mention of it by one candidate or another, if only to deprecate its discussion, in fact injected the issue into the campaign.

Senator John F. Kennedy, however, discussed the subject without reservations. To a group of Protestant ministers in Texas, he declared that he would resign if he could not make every presidential decision in the national interest, "without regard to religious pressures or dictates. Whatever issue may come before me as President—on birth control, divorce, censorship, gambling, parochial schools, or any other subject—I will make my decision in accordance with what my conscience tells me to be the national interest.

"But I want it understood that I do not speak for my church on public matters and the church does not speak for me."

Responding to the above statement, Nixon declared that he accepted what Senator Kennedy said about religion and hoped others will, too. Said Vice President Nixon, "I doubt that either Senator Kennedy or myself, as President, would face a conflict between conscience and national interest."

15 YEARS BEFORE THE WHITE HOUSE

In 1846, while a candidate for Congress, Lincoln felt impelled to state his position on the subject of religion which became an issue in his campaign. Accordingly he published the following letter:

To the Voters of the Seventh Congressional District

Fellow Citizens:

"A charge having got into circulation in some of the neighborhoods of this District, in substance that I am an open scoffer at Christianity, I have by the advice of some friends concluded to notice the subject in this form. That I am not a member of any Christian Church, is true, but I have never denied the truth of the Scriptures; and I have never spoken with intentional disrespect of religion in general, or of any denomination of Christians in particular.

"It is true that in early life I was inclined to believe in what I understand is called the 'Doctrine of Necessity'—that is, that the human mind is impelled to action, or held in rest by some power, over which the mind it-

self has no control; and I have sometimes (with one, two or three, but never publicly) tried to maintain this opinion in argument.

"The habit of arguing thus, however, I have entirely left off for more than five years. And I add here, I have always understood this same opinion to be held by several of the Christian denominations. The foregoing is the whole truth, briefly stated, in relation to myself, upon this subject.

"I do not think I could, myself, be brought to support a man for office, whom I knew to be an open enemy of, and scoff at, religion. Leaving the higher matter of eternal consequences between him and his Maker, I still do not think any man has the right thus to insult the feelings, and injure the morals, of the community in which he may live. If, then, I was guilty of such conduct, I should blame no man who should condemn me for it; but I do blame those, whoever they may be, who falsely put such a charge in circulation against me.

July 31, 1846.

A. LINCOLN"

RELIGION IN WHITE HOUSE

Shortly before the Battle of Gettysburg, according to the report of a guest in the White House at that time, low tones were heard coming from a private room near President Lincoln's sleeping quarters, although the hour was far past midnight. The door was partly open, and the guest saw Lincoln kneeling in prayer and overheard these words:

"Oh, Thou God that heard Solomon in the night when he prayed for wisdom, hear me. I cannot lead this people; I cannot guide the affairs of this nation without Thy help. . . . Oh, God, Who didst hear Solomon when he cried for wisdom, hear me and save this nation."

The guest added in his report of the incident: "I think from that time the clouds which had long lain threatening over the affairs of our Government began to roll away. The skies were brighter; the smile of heaven was upon our President; God heard his prayer and sent deliverance."

Time Heals Civil War Wounds •

But humor and common sense of the National Centennial Commission helps a good bit.

That the commemorative programs planned for the Centenary of the Civil War required some real salesmanship in the South, is indicated by this letter to the editor of The Blumhaven Digest:

"The 'War between the States,' to be polite, may have been the most important event in our history, though that is certainly open to question, but can't we let sleeping dogs lie and view it in perspective, not gnaw at the ugly bone forever?"

It is conceivable, of course, that the memory of General Ulysses S. Grant, the implacable foe of their beloved Robert E. Lee* would not evoke enthusiasm south of the Mason and Dixon line. And for that reason, it was not expected that the grandson of the Union Army commander, the amiable U. S. Grant, III, chairman of the Civil War Centennial Commission, would induce southern patriots to stage block parties and celebrations for the observance of the 100th Anniversary of the Civil War. But the files of the Centennial Commission reveal that the grandson of the Civil War General has done all right in the South lately. General Grant, III, in fact,

has substantially promoted national unity and the eradication of the bitterness which was the hang-over of the war period.

A striking example of this was the reaction of a southern lady to her appointment by General Grant to the Advisory Council of the Civil War Centennial Commission. The designation of Mrs. Florence Sillers Ogden of Rosedale, Miss., was a felicitous move. It brought forth a dramatic acceptance letter of great harmonizing value.

Wrote Mrs. Ogden to General Grant: "I am deeply interested in the Centennial and feel sure it will be a great success under your chairmanship . . . if you are anything like as good at Centennials as your grandfather was at running a war. Since your grandfather shelled my grandmother's plantation . . . I know a lot about your family. You may be interested to know that I still operate that plantation . . .

"I did not think I would ever receive an appointment from Gen. U. S. Grant, but time and the river have run a long span . . . and the bitterness of those days is long spent. I consider it an honor to serve on your commission."

To those who are saying the Centennial observances are backed by folks who are "fighting the Civil War all over again," Col. Karl S. Betts, Executive Director of the Civil War Centennial Commission answers, "We've been fighting that war over and over again for 100 years and there *haven't been any casualties yet.*"

To those who urge, "Let us forget and forgive," both Betts and Grant reply blandly, "The American people are not going to forget the Civil War. And neither the North nor the South wants to be forgiven for anything."

The humor and enthusiasm of the Centennial observances are gratifying to Col. Betts. He recalls how one of the Southern commis-

*To a correspondent who recently asked President Dwight D. Eisenhower why he included Lee among those he considered our great Americans—Lincoln, Washington and Franklin—he replied:

"General Robert E. Lee was, in my estimation, one of the supremely gifted men produced by our nation. He believed unswervingly in the constitutional validity of his cause which until 1865 was still an arguable question in America, he was a poised and inspiring leader, true to the high trust reposed in him by millions of his fellow citizens, he was thoughtful yet demanding of his officers and men, forbearing with captured enemies but ingenious, unrelenting and personally courageous in battle, and never disheartened by a reverse or obstacle.

"Through all his many trials, he remained selfless almost to a fault and unfailing in his faith in God. Taken altogether, he was noble as a leader and as a man, and unsullied as I read the pages of our history.

"From deep conviction I simply say this: A nation of men of Lee's caliber would be unconquerable in spirit and soul . . ."

sions urged him to send General Grant down for a visit. "We'll send him back *C. S. Grant*," they vowed. And when a southern governor received Governor Almond's invitation to take part in the Manassas reenactment, he agreed at once—then slyly asked Betts if they would be permitted to use live ammunition.

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

Late August 1960 developments south of the Mason and Dixon Line indicate more rapprochement and a surge toward complete national unity. It is no longer the "late war" or the "War between the States."

Commissions from ten southern states recently assembled to plan commemorative activities for the forthcoming centennial of that conflict, agreed to the "Civil War" as its name. "It did," said one of the delegates cautiously, "have some aspects of a civil war."

This acceptance by the South of the historic designation "Civil War" is not as insignificant as it may seem. Officially the North first knew the war as an "insurrection existing in the United States," and later as the "War

of the Rebellion." The latter title, in fact, persisted in government publications at least down to 1927.

Whether or not the South was "in revolt" against established authority was not settled at any of the crucial battles of the war—neither was the term "Civil War," which means a conflict between parties or sections within a single nation, accepted by either side for some time after the conflict was over. Alexander Stephens, Vice President of the Confederacy, who opposed secession but defended the right of a state to secede, preferred to consider the struggle "The War Between the States." The South likes the name, as well as that of "the War for Southern Independence," which stressed no constitutional theory but sounded good.

There may still be some resistance here and there, but the name "Civil War" is winning its way. It is short, comprehensible and increasingly familiar. Perhaps its official adoption in the South is as happy an augury as one could wish, a hundred years after secession.

Pennsylvania's "Participation" In Commemorating Civil War Centennial

On May 24, 1960, *The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin's* distinguished columnist, *Paul Jones*, contributed a disturbing article on the subject of Pennsylvania's participation in the commemorative programs of the 100th anniversary of the Civil War.

With its heritage of the Battle of Gettysburg and the memorable address of President Lincoln there, most everybody expected Pennsylvania to be the leader among her sister states in developing a commemorative program. As of September 1, Pennsylvania has not set up a state-wide commission or provided a budget of its participation in the national commemorative programs. Besides that deficiency, Pennsylvania has not recognized the council of the Civil War Centennial

Commission, federally appointed for co-ordination of state and national efforts. The Jones article highlights the languid approach of the state toward the centennial. The article as it appeared in *The Philadelphia Bulletin*:

PENNSYLVANIA IGNORES CIVIL WAR CENTENARY BY PAUL JONES

In less than a year we shall begin the centennial commemoration of the Civil War. General U. S. Grant 3d, heads the national commission, with former Governor Tuck, of Virginia, as vice chairman, and Mr. Eisenhower, Mr. Nixon, and Speaker Sam Rayburn on the honorary directorate.

Thirty-seven States have appointed centennial commissions, to prepare and carry out educational programs and official ceremonies within their borders. Arkansas appropriated \$20,000 for a two-year period; Alabama, \$60,000; Mississippi, \$500,000 (4 years); Massachusetts, \$10,000.

Virginia's General Assembly has already earmarked more than \$1,000,000 for a program that will spread over five years.

What has Pennsylvania done? What does Pennsylvania plan to do? Nothing.

There is a commission, appointed in 1957, with the unwieldy name: "The 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address Commission."

Last year a bill was introduced in the Legislature, appropriating \$25,000 for the preparatory work of this body. The sum was reduced to \$5,000 in committee. When the bill went to Governor Lawrence, he vetoed it.

This leaves us in an odd position, since the commemoration of the great battle and of Lincoln's address, dedicating the battlefield cemetery, in 1863 was Pennsylvania's only gesture toward taking part in the national centenary observance of the war of 1861-65.

General Grant wrote Governor Lawrence last November, suggesting the appointment of a State Civil War Centennial Commission. As he said: "Pennsylvania supplied 300 regiments to all branches of the service, a number only exceeded by New York, and we feel that the descendants of those patriots of 1860 will want to play an equally important role in commemorating the great events of the Civil War. Regiments from the Keystone State fought on every front, and a great many of her sons attained high rank in the military forces. Their deeds deserve national recognition, and we are anxious at National Headquarters to secure that recognition."

Pennsylvania furnished great regiments and great generals to the Union cause. Its war governor, Andrew Gregg Curtin, was Lincoln's strong right arm in this critical border state for the whole period of the war.

John W. Geary, who succeeded Curtin in 1867, commanded the Second Division, Twelfth Corps, at Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Chickamauga. Sherman made him military governor of Savannah, whose citizens gave him a vote of thanks "for his urbanity as a gentleman and his kindness to our citizens."

His successor at Harrisburg was John F. Hartmanft, who was colonel of the 51st Pennsylvania at Chantilly, Antietam, and Vicksburg. In the Virginia campaigns of '64 and '65, he was first a brigadier and then a division commander in the Ninth Corps. As a measure of his worth, he was offered after the war, the 34th Regiment of regulars, with the permanent rank of colonel.

These, with so many other good men, should not be forgotten during the commemoration. A Philadelphian, Herman Blum, the well-known expert on the Civil War, who is a Pennsylvania member of the Advisory Council, National Civil War Centennial Commission, writes us:

"What Pennsylvania has done is distressingly inadequate. It is inconceivable . . . that the Keystone State should not be at the forefront in cooperating with the national government to observe these events in our history.

"It would also be appropriate if our city would take steps to devote part of the renovated Mall to a civic center commemorating the Civil War. The transfer of a few of the statues scattered in Fairmount Park (and around City Hall) would establish a point of interest near Independence Hall that would be an inspiration."

But, as of now, we seem determined to ignore the Civil War.

CIRCUMLOCUTION OR RELUCTANCE?

During the months following the publication of Paul Jones' challenging article, no material change has developed in the Pennsylvania situation. Harrisburg's understandable preoccupation, before and after the Democratic convention at Los Angeles, made it impossible for Governor Lawrence and Secretary John Rice to focus attention on this matter during the summer. Secretary Rice is fully aware of the commemorative programs in other states, and is in accord with the purposes of the National Civil War Centennial Commission to have Pennsylvania take an appropriate part in the observances and reenactments planned for the Civil War Centennial commencing next January.

But Secretary Rice, who is also state chairman of the Democratic Party, has had to devote his attention to critical state problems, compelling him to defer consideration of centenary matters.

During July there was a conference at State College, Pa., between the Pennsylvania members of the federally appointed advisory council of the Civil War Centennial Commission, headed by Dr. Roy F. Nichols, vice provost and dean of the Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania and Major General Anthony Drexel Biddle, adjutant general of Pennsylvania.

At the conclusion of the meeting, it was decided to further discuss the matter with the Secretary of the Commonwealth. The consensus of opinion at the State College meeting was that the Pennsylvania Historical Commission should be designated as the body in Pennsylvania responsible for Civil War celebrations other than those connected with Gettysburg; that an attempt should be made to increase its budget; and that our group appointed by the Federal Commission, should be associated with the other two commissions in an advisory capacity.

I did not agree with this conclusion and filed a dissenting opinion. The proposal spells out the abdication of the authority and responsibilities of the advisory council of the Na-

tional Civil War Centennial Commission. It arbitrarily transfers functions which were assigned to this federal agency. It does not represent full coordination between state and national commemorative efforts.

OTHER STATES ACTIVE

As the Digest went to press on September 1, 1960, 24 states were already actively preparing commemorative programs under the direction of or in cooperation with the Civil War Centennial Commission. Pennsylvania was not one of those 24 states. Forty have set up State Commissions. Noticeably predominant in the list are commemorative ceremonies. Only five battle reenactments are included.

"This is in line with our policy of discouraging reenactments," explained Karl S. Betts, executive director of the National Civil War Centennial Commission. "Certain of them, such as First Manassas and possibly others, are essential to the overall program but too many of them would be a bad feature. A lot of money, time and effort is required to stage them, and too many would be monotonous."

Perhaps the most advanced reenactment to date is that scheduled to be held on the field of First Manassas near Manassas, Va., July 22-23 of next year. The spectacular demonstration will be repeated on successive days, with participation by contingents from each of the 23 states represented in the original battle, by the North-South Skirmishers, National Guard and possibly other units. Both the Defense Department and the National Park Service are cooperating.

The national centennial program will begin officially on January 8 with ceremonies designed to attract the attention of the entire nation. On that date, President Eisenhower will issue a special message from the White House calling on all Americans to participate in this effort to re-learn the lessons gained from this country's greatest test, the war that gave her the political pattern by which she has become the strongest and most united nation on earth.

Cooperating in the occasion, special cere-

monies to mark the opening of the Centennial will be held at each of the service academies: West Point, N. Y., Annapolis, Md., Colorado Springs, Colo., and New London, Conn.

As another tribute to the occasion, down at Charleston, S. C., a special three-day ceremony has been planned to call attention to the *Star of the West* incident, the effort to re-provision Fort Sumter that on January 9, 1861, drew the first hostile fire from Southerners.

PROGRAM WELL UNDER WAY

Other commemorative ceremonies will follow in quick succession. At Jackson, Miss., on January 9, the secession convention, at which that state voted to secede from the Union, will be recalled in authentic detail. Two days later at Montgomery, Ala., the All-South Centennial commission and the Alabama Civil War Centennial commission will collaborate in a similar program. Louisiana will follow with a reenactment of this nature on January 26.

Alabama will stage two other ceremonies in February, both at Montgomery. On the 4th, the Confederate Constitutional convention will be commemorated, and from the 12th to 18th, in programs of picturesque detail, attention will be called to the arrival and inauguration of President Jefferson Davis.

The counterpart of this inauguration, that of the Union President, Abraham Lincoln, will be staged at Washington, D. C., on March 4. Under the direction of the District of Columbia Civil War Centennial commission, a giant parade, with some of the marchers in period uniforms and carrying authentic Civil War weapons, will be held through the streets of the city. That night the ceremony will wind up with a colorful inaugural ball.

South Carolina again will enter the centennial picture on April 12. At that time an authentic reenactment of the attack on Fort Sumter, including the bombardment and surrender, will be staged along with allied ceremonies. Thousands of persons are expected to be on hand, including members of the various state centennial commissions, who will assem-

ble there on the day preceding the reenactment for the fourth annual assembly of the National Centennial commission.

Between then and the First Manassas reenactment, several ceremonies are planned. These include programs to mark the battle of Lexington, Mo., May 18; battle of Philippi, W. Va., June 3, and Big Bethel, Va., June 10.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SOUTH

The Civil War Centennial commission was created in 1958 with a congressional appropriation of \$50,000. To the surprise of everyone, Senator Harry Byrd of Virginia, famed for his economy ardor, demanded that the appropriation be doubled. The increase passed by acclamation. As of June, 1960, various states had earmarked \$2,417,000 to finance

these commissions' activities. The bulk of this money was budgeted by the southern states. Since most of the war was fought within the borders of the Confederacy, that's where the interest is most fervent. Virginia alone set up a fund of \$1,387,000.

NOT UNDER PA. SPONSORSHIP

On July 25, 1960, the Civil War Centennial commission announced that as part of the plans it has prepared for a nation-wide commemoration, 61 projects have been launched in various states. In the list of activities already planned, Pennsylvania is only mentioned once: The Philadelphia Centennial celebration of the organization of the First Regiment Infantry, National Guard, on April 16-22, 1961.

BOOKS ON THE CIVIL WAR

Next to religion, more books have been published on the Civil War than on any other subject in America.

TUT-TUT, CARL!

Carl Sandburg recently pontificated that the Civil War was started over ONE word in political platforms. That two-letter word was IS. The question was whether it should be "the United States IS, or the United States ARE!"

GENEALOGY

Abe could have said it, but he wouldn't have mentioned kings. It happens that it was Plato, the Greek philosopher, who said it about 400 B. C. Here is the adage: "Every king springs from a race of slaves, and every slave has had kings among his ancestors."

DIOGENES

An old engraving published by H. B. Hall in 1865 shows Diogenes resting beside a portrait of Lincoln. Under the picture is this inscription:

Diogenes his lantern needs no more.
An honest man is found; the search is o'er.

FATHER KINES' STORY

The Rev. L. Kerkley Kines, S.J., head of the History Department of St. Joseph's College, Philadelphia, delights in telling this Civil War story: "In my grandparents' home in Baltimore, both of whom were ardent rebel partisans, three words beginning with L were never to be mentioned during the disturbance between the States. These were: LUCIFER, LUTHER, and LINCOLN."

What They Said About Lincoln's Gettysburg Address •

*Wide difference of newspaper editorial opinion.
1960 version of dispatch from Gettysburg.*

London Times: "The ceremony was rendered ludicrous by some of the sallies of that poor President Lincoln. . . . Anything more dull and commonplace it would not be easy to produce."

Harrisburg Patriot & Union: "We pass over the silly remarks of the President; for the credit of the nation we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them and that they shall no more be repeated or thought of."

Chicago Times: "The cheek of every American must tingle with shame as he reads the silly, flat and dish-watery utterance of the man who has to be pointed out to intelligent foreigners as the President of the United States."

It was the same *Chicago Times* that sneered, "Lincoln cannot speak five grammatical sentences in succession." It dismissed Lincoln's second inaugural address, as "slipshod and puerile." In its report of the Gettysburg address, it slyly quoted Lincoln as having said, "Four score and *ten* years ago" (instead of "four score and *seven* years ago") and it steadfastly refused to correct the mistake.

The *Illinois State Register*, published in Springfield, asserted that Lincoln's "buffoonery convinces the mind of no man and was utterly lost on the majority of his audiences."

New York Times: After printing about 7½ columns of Edward Everett's 2¼-hour oration, it mentioned that Mr. Lincoln also spoke, and according to Judge David Wills, chairman of the Gettysburg Cemetery commission, formally set apart the grounds at Gettysburg for their sacred use, by a few appropriate remarks. The *Times* made no editorial comment that day on Lincoln's Gettysburg address.

New York Herald: It mentioned the address as the "dedicatory remarks of the President," without reporting what he said.

It took some little time for newspaper commentators to recognize the memorable character of that speech. Yet there were some outstanding acceptances of its inspirational value almost immediately after its delivery on November 19, 1863. Among those who acclaimed it at once, were:

Philadelphia Bulletin: "Thousands who would not read the elaborate oration of Mr. Everett will read the President's few words and not many will do it without moistening of the eye and swelling of the heart."

Boston Transcript: "A memorable statement."

Chicago Tribune: "Half a century hence, to have lived in this age will be fame. To have served it as well as Lincoln, will be immortality."

Baltimore Sun: "A message of surpassing simplicity and value to our people."

PERSONAL EXCHANGE

Edward Everett: The day following the ceremonies at Gettysburg, Everett hastened to write to Mr. Lincoln: "I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes. I want to congratulate you for the thoughts you expressed with such eloquent simplicity and appropriateness."

Mr. Lincoln himself: President Lincoln being aware that Everett's exhausting oration was being criticised for its length wrote this magnanimous letter to Everett: "You could not have been excused to make a short address, nor I a long one. I am pleased that the little I did say was not entirely a failure."

There were passages in it which transcended my expectations.”

FROM NEPAL TO THE CONGO

Today, from the far corners of the earth, they quote and recite Lincoln’s Gettysburg address with reverence and affection. In the news, 97 years after the delivery of the address, King Mahendra, of Nepal, appeared in Washington, D. C., before a joint session of Congress on April 28, 1960. Speaking in his native tongue for 20 minutes, about world-wide bewilderment, the shy and impassive monarch of the Mount Everest country, suddenly quoted from Lincoln’s Gettysburg address *in English*. He was applauded when an aide translated his remarks, but when he unexpectedly switched to English to assure his audience that in spite of tensions and threats: “governments of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth,” he was given a thunderous applause.

LUMUMBA, TOO

Our mid-summer visitor, Patrice Lumumba, the belligerent Premier of the Congo, in between shopping for cash, teachers, doctors and technicians to refurbish his African domain containing 14 million Congolese, happily quoted Lincoln at his press conferences. In Washington he laid a wreath on the Lincoln monument.

GHOST WRITERS, PLEASE NOTE: Historians have never asked, “who wrote the Gettysburg address?” The testimony as to who wrote it is beyond doubt. Lincoln had no ghost writers. He wrote the address without the aid of copy writers, punctuation correcters or researchers. The theme of the speech, the idea for the message, its brevity, its phraseology, its moving eloquence were all Mr. Lincoln’s.

TODAY’S TV COMMENT

C.B.S.’s Edward R. Murrow: “All reports indicate that he had an abrasive voice and a wife who was not a political asset. The critics probably would have given him hell for not using his allotted time at Gettysburg.”

As for that TV image—“What, no makeup

at all? Guess you’re right, Abe, we won’t shave off that beard. And that shawl, stovepipe hat and string tie are all right, too!”

BREVITY, ACCURACY, BREVITY AND NO GEE-WHIZ*

The routine “news story” that was put on the wires by the reporters who “covered” the dedication ceremonies on November 19, 1863 at the site of the Battle of Gettysburg, was completely free of suspense or emotion-stirring features. The dispatch summarized the speeches delivered there, giving the barest outline of what President Lincoln and the “foremost orator” of the day, Edward Everett said there; listed the V.I.P.’s who were there for the occasion; and described the weather and the crowds which jammed the small Pennsylvania town.

As viewed in the 1863 perspective, this was an interesting, if not an important event. Written in 1960 journalistic jargon, the spot-story would answer all the stock questions—where, when, by whom, why and how. As such, the city desk-approved copy would read something like this:

GETTYSBURG, Pa. Nov. 20, 1863.—President Abraham Lincoln, speaking at the dedication of the new National Soldiers’ Cemetery here, yesterday called for “a new birth of freedom” and for maintenance of “government of the people, for the people and by the people.”

Gathered at the scene of last July’s major battle, more than 15,000 persons heard the President urge Americans to dedicate themselves “to the great task remaining before us”—suppression of the secessionist movement.

In a surprisingly brief address, Mr. Lincoln reminded the crowd that the United States has been

* “BREVITY—ACCURACY—BREVITY and SOME GEE-WHIZ. “This was a slogan over the desk of my city editor of the *New York Evening Mail*, when I was “bulldog” edition reporter on the paper in 1906-7. Starting their illustrious careers with me on the *Mail* at that time, were the renowned illustrator, Homer Davenport; “Rube” Goldberg, the cartoonist (then a mere copy boy); Grantland Rice, famed sports writer, the recently deceased Franklin P. Adams, beloved columnist; Percy Cushing, short story writer; Henry L. Stoddart, our managing editor, and a historian of note, and George T. Hughes, my city editor, a Hearst alumnus and brash as they made ’em.

“conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal” and that “a great civil war” is now testing whether a nation of those ideals “can long endure.”

Weather Perfect

Yesterday’s mild fall weather was perfect for the ceremony setting aside 17 acres for what the President called “the final resting place” of the men who fell at Gettysburg. Members of the President’s Cabinet, governors of the several northern states which are financing the cemetery, military leaders, foreign diplomats and thousands of plain people converged on this village to hear the President and the main speaker of the day, the Hon. Edward Everett of Massachusetts.

Dr. Everett spoke for two hours. He pointed out the catastrophe that would have befallen the Union if Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee had won a victory in his invasion of Pennsylvania last summer. And he recounted the three-day battle in detail, basing his account on reports by Gen. George G. Meade, commander of the victorious Army of the Potomac, and other Union officers.

Clique Responsible

The former secretary of state and one-time both

senator and governor of Massachusetts, blamed the current war on a small but powerful clique of wealthy Southerners.

Dr. Everett—often termed the “foremost orator of our day”—insisted that the common bonds of language, religion, history and ancestry between the North and South are strong enough to overcome any bitterness brought about by the war, once the power of Confederate leaders is broken.

Devotion Praised

By comparison, the President’s address was very brief—only a few moments were required for him to deliver it. Like Dr. Everett, he praised the devotion of the men who died at Gettysburg and whose bodies are now being reinterred in the new cemetery. Their actions will always be remembered, Mr. Lincoln said. And he suggested that “we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain.”

Col. Ward Hill Lamon, marshal of the District of Columbia, introduced President Lincoln.

Benjamin B. French, custodian of public buildings in Washington, introduced Dr. Everett. A hymn written by French especially for the occasion was sung by the Baltimore Glee Club following the main address.

Editorial Opinion On His Eloquence At Cooper Union and Cincinnati

It was the first visit of the Illinois prairie lawyer to New York City. Lincoln’s speech at the “Cooper Institute”, as The Cooper Union was then known, was of the utmost importance to him, for he was invited to the big city largely to have his “availability” for the Presidency examined by the political “big-wigs” of the East, who were incoherently opposed to the candidacy of William H. Seward.

The momentous test for Lincoln was staged for the evening of February 27, 1860. It snowed that night when the self-conscious Lincoln addressed that New York audience. Some 1500 people paid 25c each to hear him. From the proceeds of the sale of tickets, Lincoln received a fee of \$200.00, plus his limited traveling expenses.

LINCOLN’S APPEARANCE

Among those on the platform at the meeting, besides Chairman William Cullen Bryant, was Horace Greeley, editor of the *New York Tribune* and George Palmer Putnam, editor and magazine publisher. Putnam’s son, then 16 years old, later described the speaker as follows: “The first impression of the man

from the West did nothing to contradict the expectation of something weird, rough and uncultivated.

“The long, ungainly figure upon which hung clothes that, while new for this trip, were evidently the work of an unskillful tailor; the large feet, the clumsy hands of which, at the outset, at least, the orator seemed unduly conscious; the long, gaunt head capped by a shock of hair that seemed not to have been thoroughly brushed out, made a picture which did not fit in with New York’s conception of a finished statesman.”

David C. Mearns, chief of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, recently presented a moving and dramatic description of the crucial event in the Cooper Institute. It is fascinating to contemplate how Lincoln met the challenge of the situation.

“Lincoln was presented by William Cullen Bryant,” said distinguished historian Mearns. “There was Lincoln, reading in low tones from the carefully prepared manuscript. At first his listeners were unresponsive; some sophisticates were shocked or amused by that uncultivated voice; others were dismayed or

diverted by his extraordinary appearance and strange attire. But gradually and, at last, completely, his logic and its eloquence captured their earnest attention, and when he had reached his now familiar climax and conclusion there was unrestrained applause; loud cheering broke out; the gentlemen on the platform surrounded him, uttering congratulations and expressing warm approval; the White House somehow did not seem quite so far away."

WHAT NEWSPAPERS SAID

Lincoln spoke for an hour and a half analyzing the Constitutional position of slavery in the territories.

How was the speech received?

The *Tribune* said: "Mr. Lincoln is one of nature's orators, using his rare powers solely and effectively to elucidate and convince, though their inevitable effect is to delight and electrify as well."

The *Times* reported the cheering and enthusiasm, but characterized Lincoln as "that noted political exhorter and prairie orator, Abe Lincoln."

The *Herald*, Democratic, was deceived. "A fourth rate lecturer . . . in return for the most unmitigated trash interlarded with coarse and clumsy jokes, he filled his empty pockets with dollars coined out of Republican fanaticism."

Lincoln's opponents made as adverse and

vile comments on his speeches before his inauguration as after he took office. In 1860 after his nomination, he made a number of political speeches. Some of these rank among the best he made. But to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, the significant speech Mr. Lincoln delivered there "contained nothing that is calculated to make any man wiser, or more learned; to make him a better citizen or a better man; to give him any insight into the character of the Government or into his duty as a part of the governing power. It is, in single expressive word, trash—trash from beginning to end; trash without one solitary oasis to relieve the dreary waste that begins with its nearest, and ends with its furthest, boundary. Among public addresses from the stump, the speech of Mr. Lincoln belongs to the lowest order. It is not the speech of a statesman; it is not the speech of a politician; it is not even the speech of a fair partisan. It is the speech of a pettifogging demagogue. . . ."

THE OPPOSITION'S ATTACKS

On August 2, 1860, the *New York Herald*, supporting the rival Breckenridge ticket for the Presidency, editorialized: "The only danger of the Union which we have to fear will be the danger which will follow Lincoln's election. The defeat of Lincoln, whether by the Electoral Colleges or by Congress, will be equivalent to a new lease of security to the Union."

WHAT SUCCESSORS SAID ABOUT LINCOLN

"A man of great ability, pure patriotism, unselfish nature, full of forgiveness to his enemies, bearing malice toward none, he proved to be the man above all others for the great struggle through which the nation had to pass to place itself among the greatest in the family of nations." —GRANT

"He was one of the few great rulers whose wisdom increased with his power and whose spirit grew gentler and tenderer as his triumphs were multiplied." —GARFIELD

"A supremely great and good man."

—CLEVELAND

"Nothing was more noteworthy in all of Lincoln's character than the way in which he combined fealty to the loftiest ideal with a thoroughly practical capacity to achieve that ideal by practical methods. He did not war with phantoms; he did not struggle among the clouds; he faced facts; he endeavored to get the best results he could out of the warring forces with which he had to deal."

—THEO. ROOSEVELT

Lincoln Was Portrayed and Photographed Most Liberally •

Favored and frequent subject of sculptors and cartoonists during his lifetime and continuing up to present.

Lincoln portraits in oil, crayon, water color and pen and ink, painted or sketched long after his death, exceed many times the number of portraits he sat for. Cartoons of President Lincoln drawn after 1860 outnumber those made during his lifetime.

These posthumous portraits and cartoons were based upon the works of meticulous artists and photographers for whom Mr. Lincoln generously posed. Many of these Lincoln portraits, painted as late as 1955, have solid merit. Some of them actually capture the likeness and reflect the spirit and vitality of the great man.

In the production of these portraits 50, 75 and 90 years after Lincoln's death, photographs of President Lincoln were of supreme importance. Of these photographs there are 102 known to exist today. Of these, 50 were taken in Washington, 25 in Springfield, Ill., six at the Civil War battlefield of Antietam, four in Chicago, two each in Philadelphia and New York and one each in Urbana, Beardstown, Macomb, Pittsfield, Monmouth, Danville, Decatur and at Gettysburg.

No one is sure where the other five were taken.

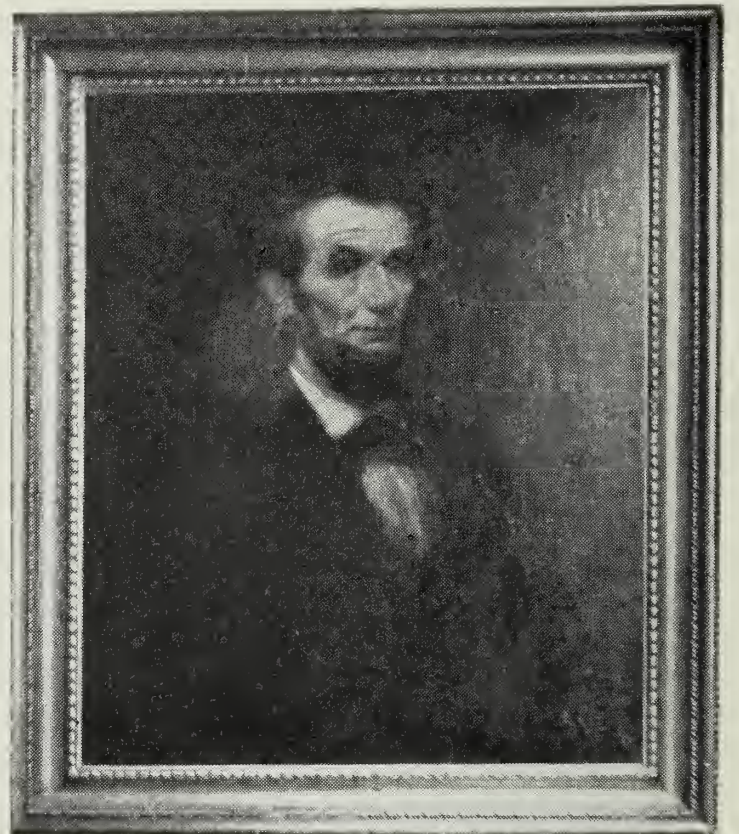
SUPERB VOLK PORTRAIT

Of the portraits painted by artists who never saw Mr. Lincoln, one of the most amazing likenesses was achieved by Stephen A. Douglas Volk, son of Leonard Volk, the sculptor, who made the life mask and a number of busts of Lincoln. The Volk portrait is life size, a $\frac{3}{4}$ profile of living colors.

The exact time of the completion of this dramatic Lincoln portrait was not recorded by the Volk family. It is presumed, however, that it was executed around 1890. This

was after Volk painted a study of Lincoln which was acquired by Andrew Mellon, who presented it to the National Gallery of Art in Washington.

Douglas Volk was founder and director of the Minneapolis School of Fine Arts, and at the height of his career painted memorable



Oil portrait of Lincoln by Stephen A. D. Volk, son of Sculptor Volk. Portrait (40" by 36") is on display in Memorial Hall of Blumhaven Library. Unveiled June 20, 1953.

portraits of General Pershing, David Lloyd George and King Albert of Belgium. Through an obscure circumstance, shortly after Volk's death in 1935, his masterful characterization of President Lincoln was sewed up in a mattress cover and stored in the attic of a cottage in Center Lovell, Maine. It was not removed from the attic until 1953, when the last of Mrs. Wendell Douglas Volk's remaining Lincoln memorabilia were sold at auction. This Lincoln portrait by Volk was unknown

to the National Gallery of Art and had never been exhibited publicly until it was dedicated and unveiled at the Blumhaven Library by the Lincoln Civil War Society of Philadelphia.

SON SAYS "EXCELLENT LIKENESS"

Shortly before he died in 1926, Robert Todd Lincoln viewed the Volk portrait of his father and wrote the artist, "The portrait of my father is a most excellent likeness, as I recall him. I am very glad indeed to have seen it."

UNKNOWN CARPENTER PORTRAIT

Next in importance to the Volk portrait in the Blumhaven Galley is the heretofore unknown study in oil by Francis B. Carpenter. Carpenter is the artist who in 1864 painted the huge canvas, now in the House of Representatives building in Washington, entitled "First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation before the Cabinet."

Historians and art students who have examined the painting in the Blumhaven Gallery, expressed varied opinions of the portrait, which is a striking life size study on a 39 by 33 inch canvas in a massive oval gold frame. While the style and technique of the painter's work were recognized as typically Carpenter, there is no visible signature on the canvas. There is, however, an engraved metal plate attached, which reads, "By F. B. Carpenter, A. N. A." Because of this, conflicting views as to the authenticity of the picture, were expressed. But there was unanimity in pronouncing it a fair likeness of Lincoln and the work of an accomplished artist.

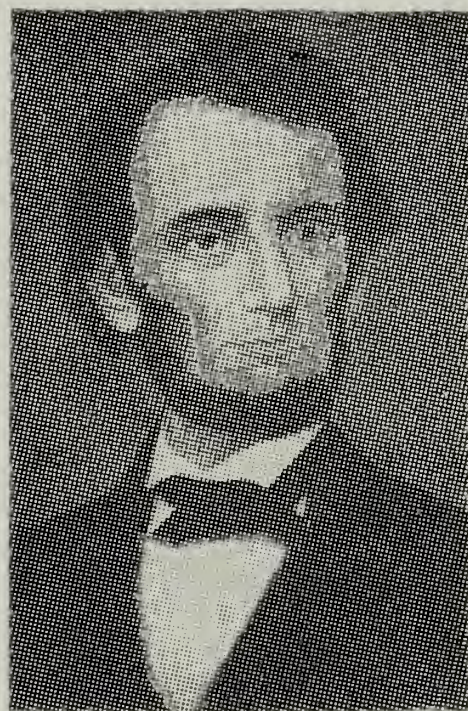
How many authentic Francis B. Carpenter Lincoln portraits are there in existence today? This question is inevitably raised by the variegation of facial expressions and characteristics featured in portraits definitely accepted as Carpenter's as well as in those attributed to him.

Among the portraits attributed to Carpenter, which he is presumed to have painted in 1864, is a beardless, dour Lincoln, now in the Smithsonian Institution. Mr. Lincoln was

beardless in 1860 when he was nominated for the Presidency. According to legend he began to grow a beard when an eleven year old girl wrote him, "All the ladies like whiskers and they would tease their husbands to vote for you." By the time he was inaugurated, he had a full grown, luxurious beard and he never shaved it off. Yet, three years after the inaugural, Carpenter painted the President as clean shaven.

In a letter dated April 6, 1864, to Secretary William H. Seward, Carpenter wrote:

"I have visited the President several times to secure something more than the very tired expression I found he had, and I feel satisfied



Attributed to Carpenter

that I have succeeded in securing a satisfactory portrait."

The Carpenter Lincoln in the Blumhaven Gallery bears no resemblance to the Smithsonian portrait, although it is strongly suggestive of the Lincoln in the Emancipation Proclamation painting. It is also a distinct departure from the benign, pen and ink reproduction of a thinly bearded Lincoln, signed "From life by Francis B. Carpenter, 1864," also in the Blumhaven Library. An original, contemporary engraving, 46 by 39 inches, reproducing Carpenter's Emancipation Proclamation painting, showing President Lincoln and his

cabinet in 1864, is also in the Blumhaven Gallery.

"TURNED LOOSE" IN WHITE HOUSE

During 1864, Carpenter spent six busy months in the White House working on his heroic painting of the President and his cabinet. From February to July of that year, he was "turned loose," as Lincoln put it, setting up his enormous canvas in the East Room of the White House, and living on friendly terms with the President and his fractious cabinet. This intensive activity was the basis of Carpenter's book, "Six Months in the White House with Abraham Lincoln." This book has a certain artless charm, as well as direct testimony about the five or six bust portraits of Lincoln that Carpenter painted. The President is known to have posed for actually two or three of these portraits.

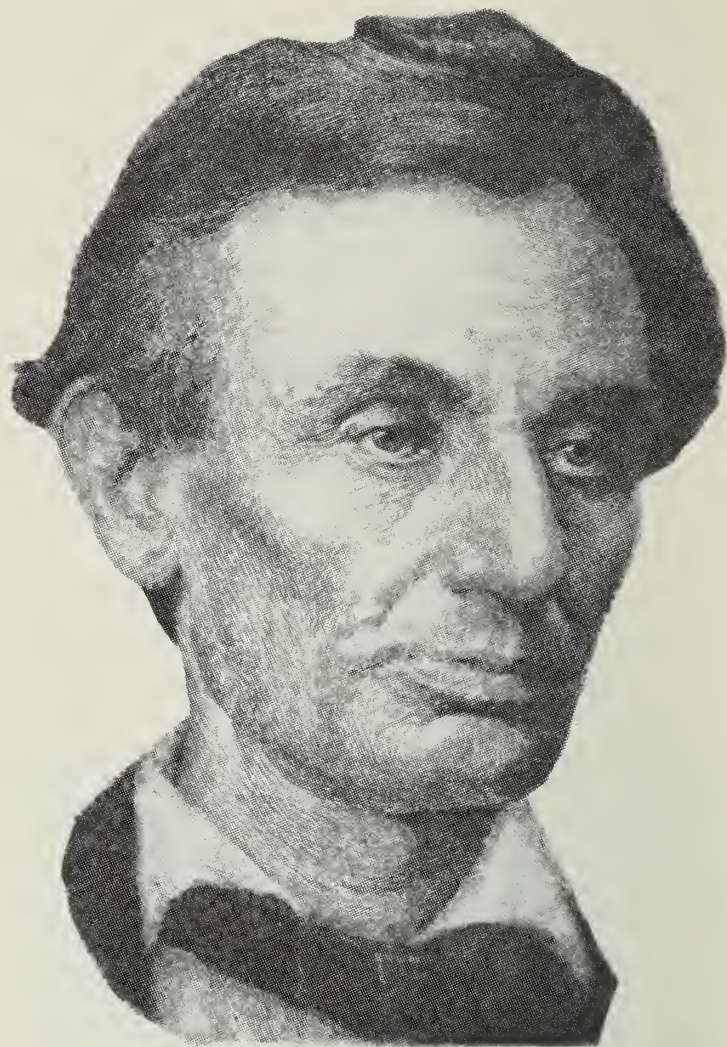
Carpenter was 70 years old when he died in 1900. During his life time, he painted many eminent Americans of his time, among them Presidents Fillmore, Tyler, Pierce and Lincoln; also Horace Greely, James R. Lowell and others.

LINCOLN AS HE LOOKED IN 1859

Other renowned Lincoln artists are also represented in the Blumhaven Gallery, by reproductions of their paintings, either in direct photographs, engravings or lithographs. The artists thus represented are: Allen Tupper True, George H. Story, George Peter Alexander Healy, Thomas Hicks, Jack Gallagher, Jan Doctoroff, D. M. Carter, Jes Schlaiker; also original cartoons by Thomas Nast, Homer Davenport, Jerry Doyle and Reg Manning.

An interesting item in Blumhaven is a group of photographs of Lincoln's portraits as they would have been painted by great artists—Michael Angelo, Picasso, Van Dyke, Raphael, Millet, Murillo, Hals and Whistler.

Another interesting item in Blumhaven is a miniature oil painting on ivory, based on an ambrotype made in Springfield, Ill., by P. Butler in 1860. This is a somber, beardless Lincoln of fine artistry. Portrait follows:



Ambrotype by P. Butler

An eye-witness description of Lincoln's appearance was printed in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* of April 14, 1859. This is how he was pictured: "Honorable Mr. Lincoln is a tall, dark-visaged, angular, awkward, positive looking sort of individual, with character written in his face and energy expressed in his every movement. He has the appearance of what is called in the Northeast, a Western Man—one who, without education or early advantages, has risen by his own exertions from an humble origin."

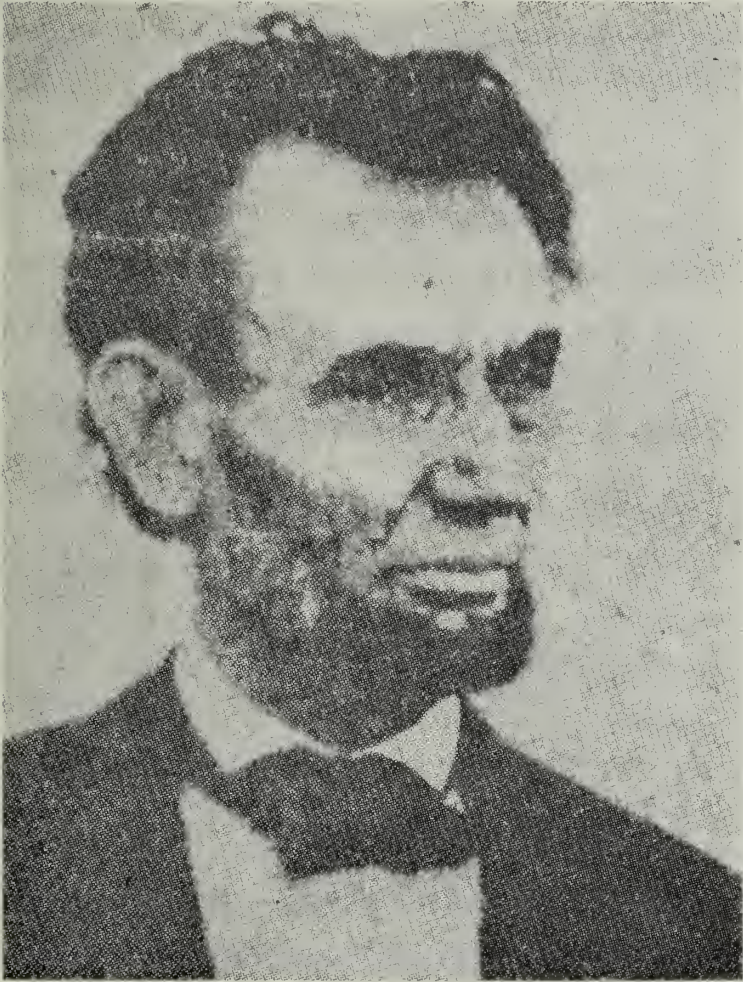
LINCOLN'S LAST PHOTOGRAPH ONE MONTH BEFORE HIS ASSASSINATION

On the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, on February 12, 1959, Boston University received an intriguing photograph of President Lincoln. It was identified as the last known photograph he posed for. It was taken by Henry F. Warren during March 1865, about 30 days before Lincoln's assassination. Boston University was gracious enough to present a copy of this photograph, made from the

negative in their possession, to Blumhaven Library, where it is on display.

War-worn and worried, President Lincoln agreed to pose on the White House lawn at the insistence of his favorite son, Tad.

The Warren photograph was donated by Dean Emeritus Melvin M. Johnson of the BU



Last Photograph—March 1865

law school. Johnson's father, Byron Berkeley Johnson, played an active role in making possible the photograph by Henry F. Warren of Waltham, Mass., in March 1865.

Johnson, rejected for war service because of a heart condition, had obtained an assignment with the war department. Warren, eager for a chance to make a picture of Lincoln, approached Johnson for help and advice.

At that time, young Tad Lincoln went out each morning to ride his pony, and one day Johnson suggested to the boy that Warren take his picture with the pony.

Delighted with the idea, Tad posed. Then Warren told the boy he would make him a present of the picture he had just taken if Tad would ask his father to pose.

The President must have listened with sympathy to the plea of the boy, for soon he came out—gaunt in his traditional black suit—carrying a chair.

He sat down on the chair and posed for Warren's camera. The face portrayed beneath a tangled thatch of hair conveys its own story of the martyred President's weariness.

LIFE MASK IN BRONZE

The bronze casting of Lincoln's life mask was made in Chicago in 1860, before his nomination. The sculptor was Leonard W. Volk.

When Volk completed the statue of Stephen A. Douglas for erection in Washington early in 1859, he was 30 years old. As a young sculptor, he was encouraged in his work by Lincoln's rival in the Lincoln-Douglas debate. In fact, Volk's wife was a cousin of Douglas and a son, Stephen Douglas Volk, was named after the Senator. The sculptor Volk was closely attached to Douglas. Nevertheless, when it looked likely that Lincoln would be nominated by the Republican convention in 1860, he approached the candidate in Chicago and prevailed upon him to sit for a bust, if and when his engagements permitted. Volk offered to save time by making a cast of his face.

A FEW HAIRS PULLED OUT

In his memoirs of the incident, Volk wrote this account of the sitting:

"Mr. Lincoln sat naturally in a chair when I made the cast. He saw every move I made in a mirror opposite, as I put the plaster on without interference with his eyesight or with his free breathing through the nostrils. It was about an hour before the mold was ready to be removed, and being all in one piece, with both ears perfectly taken, it clung pretty hard, as the cheekbones were higher than the jaws at the lobe of the ear. He bent his head low and took hold of the mold, and gradually worked it off without breaking or injury; it hurt a little, as a few hairs of the tender temples pulled out with the plaster, and made his eyes water."

The life mask reveals Lincoln, smoothly shaven of face, with a small portion of the

neck and a lock of hair on the forehead showing. It appears to be a relatively small face for a man of towering frame, six feet, four inches high. There are few portraits, daguerreotypes, and photographs of Lincoln which bear even a fair resemblance to the mask.

SAVED FROM CHICAGO FIRE

The day after Lincoln received notice of his nomination on May 20, 1860, Volk came to Springfield, Ill., to make the casts of his hands. "The right hand appeared swollen as compared with the left," Volk tells us, "on account of excessive handshaking the evening before." Volk wished Lincoln to hold something in his right hand, and the candidate went to the woodshed, sawed a few inches off a broom handle, and whittled the edges, so that the cast showed the hand gripping this round stick.

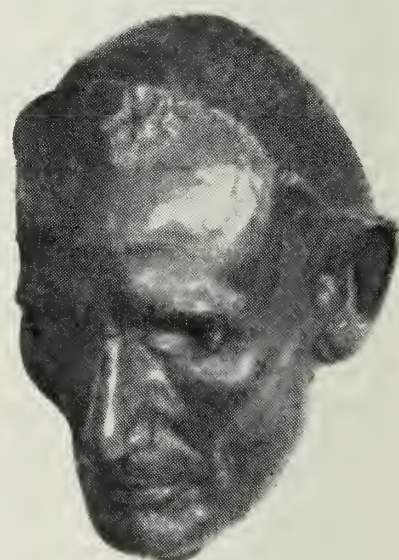
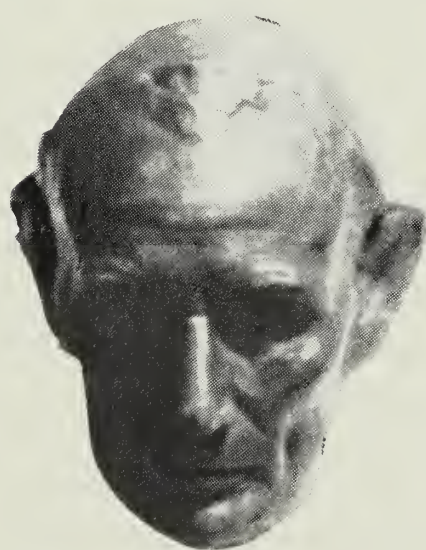
These and other association items were taken back to Chicago by Volk. The great conflagration of 1871 destroyed all of these but the bronze mask of the face and cast of the hands, which the sculptor had taken with him on an exhibition trip to Rome. These bronzes of the face and hands were acquired by Oliver R. Barrett of Chicago and were in

his fabulous Lincoln Collection for over 60 years. Upon Mr. Barrett's death, his collection was offered to a group of Illinoisans for presentation to the Illinois State Historical Library at a price sufficient to pay the inheritance tax of the estate. This was estimated to be about \$225,000. A nation-wide campaign to raise that sum was undertaken, but it fell far short of the amount required by the Barrett estate.

The collection was therefore offered for sale at a public auction in 1952. The sale grossed a total of \$273,610—some \$50,000 more than the price at which the collection had been offered to the Illinois group.

Among other items of Lincolniana Blumhagen Library acquired at this auction was the bronze casting of the facial mask of Lincoln made by sculptor Volk in 1860 and the casting of the right hand.

Important works by Volk are the Douglas monument at Chicago; the Douglas statue and the Lincoln statue in the Capitol at Springfield, Ill. His bronze "Lincoln" in Rochester, N. Y., is most closely based upon the life mask. It is the topmost figure in a soldiers and sailors memorial. His statue of General Shields is in Statuary Hall in Washington.



*TWO VIEWS OF THE LIFE MASK OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN
MADE BY LEONARD W. VOLK IN 1860*

As Reported Today--Douglas and Lincoln Debate the Slavery Issue

Abraham Lincoln's decisive impact upon the political campaign of 1960 was not limited to statements of the presidential candidates *before* and *after* their nomination by their respective parties.

It was Lincoln's anti-slavery speech in the Lincoln-Douglas debate of 1858 that set the tempo of the first of a series of Nixon-Kennedy television debates which was launched on September 26, 1960.

In his opening statement, Senator John F. Kennedy declared:

"In the election of 1860 Abraham Lincoln said the question was whether this Nation could exist half-slave or half-free. In the election of 1960 and within the world around us, the question is whether the world will exist half-slave or half-free; whether it will move in the direction of freedom, in the direction of the road that we are taking or whether it will move in the direction of slavery."

And on the question of his experience and qualifications for the Presidency, Senator Kennedy again cited Mr. Lincoln:

"Abraham Lincoln came to the Presidency in 1860 after a rather little-known session in the House of Representatives and after being defeated for the Senate in '58, and was a distinguished President. There is no certain road to the Presidency."

"IMAGE" OF THE 1858 DEBATE

In contrast to the formal TV debate of 1960 (with one candidate sitting stiffly with his legs crossed and the other with his hand on his thigh), the Lincoln-Douglas debate was a colorful event.

The modern journalist who reported President Lincoln's Gettysburg address, would earlier have "covered" the debates between Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln as indicated by this dispatch filed from Galesburg, Ill. The story, under an A.P. by-line, did not purport to portray the Galesburg debate

alone. It attempted to show the tenor of the *seven* debates in the series, in today's style of reporting.

Galesburg, Ill., Oct. 7, 1858 (A.P.)—Fiery Sen. Stephen A. Douglas, one of the Nation's most brilliant orators, and ex-Congressman Abraham Lincoln hurled the slavery issue back and forth Thursday before a vast rural audience.

The two opponents for Douglas' Senate seat—one short, dapper and polished, the other towering, unkempt and homespun—pummeled one another with words without mercy. Fraud, liar, slanderer, villainy, monstrous, infamous—all these terms and more were thrown about by the candidates as more than 20,000 people listened. Even so, the discussions held to a high level.

The throng braved the crisp fall air to come from far and near by buggy, wagon, horseback and railroad. The visitors overflowed this prairie town of 5,000 in an atmosphere like that of a gala county fair.

For three hours, starting at 2:30 p.m., they stood or sat in the open air on the Knox College campus, coats tightly buttoned against the raw northwest wind that whipped the political banners and flags and tore the words from the speakers' lips.

And, in spite of all, they listened. They heard a fluent Douglas, showing the wear of the campaign, speaking slowly and enunciating each word, his delivery and gestures sure and emphatic.

Opposing him was the roughhewn country lawyer, his voice sturdy, racing over some words, then lingering to bear hard on a word or phrase he wished to stress. He fascinated onlookers by twisting his long, ungainly frame into all manner of contortions as he spoke. Sometimes the speakers' voices dripped sarcasm. At times they thundered like the brass 12-pounder that boomed arrival of "the Little Giant" in his special railroad car. Lincoln, incidentally, came to town in a buggy parade.

At times the speaker would interrupt himself, turn to his opponent and fire a question point-blank. Or ask in triumph: "What think you of this?" Jibes from the crowd spiced the occasion. Both candidates appealed for quiet so they could use their allotted time fully.

Douglas, a man of Presidential stature, has suffered from hoarseness since the third debate and has trouble making himself heard in such a large crowd.

Lincoln, on the other hand, a virtual unknown outside Illinois when Douglas accepted his challenge to this series of debates, has gained in strength as he has gone along—a tribute to his stumping experience.

Douglas was nettled by a charge Lincoln made anew; that Douglas, a onetime State Supreme Court judge, is engaged in a conspiracy to make slavery national.

Douglas complained bitterly of having to take up precious time on such "petty personal matters." Why, he asked, did Lincoln persist in repeating a charge "when its utter falsity is proven by the public records?" Lincoln, he declared, is an ignorant man.

Rejoined Lincoln: "Ain't the judge playing the cuttlefish?"

This, the cuttlefish, he said, throws out a black fluid to thwart enemies.



LINCOLN AND

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1866 by William Sartain in the clerk's office of the District Court
R. H. Curran, Main and Water Streets, Rochester, N. Y. Printed by S. B. Waugh. Left to right



Engraved by William Sartain

HIS FAMILY

the U. S. for the Eastern district of Pennsylvania. Published by Bradley Co., 66 North Fourth Street, Philadelphia.
ad, Mr. Lincoln, Robert Todd, Mrs. Lincoln. The original engraving is in Blumhaven Gallery.

WAR HERO? CORRECTION, PLEASE!

In Section IV of my “Lincoln Paradox” address, there is an assertion that Lincoln was one of our Presidents, who among other things, *had never been a war hero*.

But that wasn’t the record or the image of the man his political supporters in 1861 wanted him to pass on to the people. The impression of Lincoln they wanted to promote was that he earned his rank as captain by heroic action against the Indians in a man’s size conflict, the Black Hawk War!

We present herewith an unfamiliar illustration from *Leslie’s Weekly* of March 9, 1861. Published in New York, this issue depicted scenes and incidents in the life of Abraham Lincoln. The sketch, entitled “Capt. Abr. Lincoln in the Black Hawk War,” shows Abe mounted on a horse, wearing a high hat with white plume and epaulets—sword drawn, leading a charge of cheering foot soldiers

against the Indians. It is evident that the purpose of the picture was to establish Lincoln’s reputation as a dashing military man.

Actually, when the Black Hawk War broke out in 1834 and the Governor of Illinois called for troops, Lincoln was one of those to volunteer in New Salem with a small company of riflemen. When these were assembled, Abe was unanimously elected captain. The company marched to Beardstown and from there to the seat of the war; but during their term of enlistment—30 days—were not called into active service. A new levy was then called for another 30-day period; Lincoln re-enlisted again and remained with his company until the war ended.

The regiment was never in contact with the enemy and as Lincoln put it, he “did not see any live fighting Indians, but had a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes.”



Tribute by The Illinois Central

● *Neatly embellished with a forgery of Lincoln autograph letter. Counterfeiters busy today.*

Wayne A. Johnston, president of the Illinois Central Railroad in his February, 1960, message to key personnel, rejoiced that "America's Greatest Man" was once the attorney of his corporation.

"For seven years, between 1853 and 1860," he said in his Illinois Central House Organ, "Lincoln was an Illinois Central lawyer who tried numerous cases in the circuit courts of Central Illinois and no fewer than eleven cases before the state Supreme Court. Even before that time, he played an active role in both state and national legislatures in helping to bring the original Illinois Central into existence.

"Lincoln was not just another lawyer, but one of the outstanding legal lights of his day. The largest single fee he ever received (\$5,000) was paid him by the Illinois Central for his handling of the charter line case before the Illinois Supreme Court."

During 1955, Blumhaven Library acquired a unique Lincoln autograph letter. This A.L.S. (as an autograph letter signed, is known to collectors) came from a long established antique dealer. Its condition was pristine; its provenance and history somewhat vague; its contents as to historical interest good. In short, for a collector, it was a desirable and interesting acquisition. Besides the subject matter of the letter, it had additional value, to an autograph collector. In addition to the signature "A. Lincoln," the letter had a rare postscript, signed "A. L."

Handwriting experts, comparing this letter with ones authenticated to be genuine Lincoln holographs, were, without exception, sure our letter was written by Lincoln.

A reproduction of the letter appears on next page.

For some 3½ years after acquiring the letter, we continued to solace ourselves with the

delusion that Blumhaven Library had a historical Lincoln autograph. In fact, on one occasion I lectured about it and its background to a high school class in history, somewhat in this manner:

"Lincoln, the lawyer, had great news for his client, the Illinois Central Railroad in 1858. The railroad had a substantial stake in a particular mandamus case which was tried in the county court at Bloomington, Illinois. The decision which had been handed down was important to Lincoln's client and he wrote to his brother-in-law, Ninian W. Edwards somewhat enthusiastically about it. Edwards was the husband of Mary Todd's sister. It was in Edwards' house that Mary Todd met Lincoln and it was there that she later married him. Though he was a relative by marriage, and intimate with Edwards, Lincoln addressed him as N. W. Edwards, Esq. and began his letter with Dear Sir."

Then, elaborating on my theme, I continued: "Lincoln's elation over his success on behalf of the Illinois Central Railroad would imply that relations between himself and his client were always mutually agreeable and profitable. This may have been so in September, 1858, when he wrote his letter to his brother-in-law. But just a couple of years before that, Lincoln drew upon the Illinois Central Railroad for \$150.00 due him in accumulated fees. This \$150.00 covered his legal services in 15 cases at \$10.00 each case. However, when the railroad attempted to settle for legal services on about the same basis, Lincoln mildly demurred, decided to press his claim against the railroad, and sued it for \$5,000.00. This was in 1857. The suit was tried before a jury, and the \$5,000.00, minus a retainer fee of \$200.00 which Lincoln had previously received, was awarded him."

By 1958, I began to hear stories about a super-duper forger of Lincoln's handwriting.

This counterfeiter, who operated under a number of aliases, was subsequently exposed, but he kept right on turning out fabulous forgeries, whenever he needed money for drink. Speculators bought his output for nominal sums. Some passed these expert forgeries on as such; some sold them at fancy profits to the unwary as genuine Lincoln autographs.

This forger's favorite reproductions were challenging transcripts of Lincoln's earlier le-

gal briefs and observations about his legal cases.

Pretty soon gnawing doubts began to assail me about that chance purchase of a Lincoln document in 1955. I decided to ask an authority on the subject about that letter. So I ran in to the Library of Congress in Washington, where my friend, Dr. C. Percy Powell, associate curator of the manuscript division of the Library, examined the letter critically. There

Springfield.
Sep. 2, 1858

N. W. Edwards, Esq
Monticello, Ills.

Dear Sir,

Yesterday morning
The Court handed down a decision in the mandamus case - denying Watch's return on the demurrer. McBlennan was present and said nothing and so I suppose the matter is ended. The Court gave no reason for its decision but Beck tells me confidentially they were unanimous in their opinion from the start. This will be great news for the Illinois Central who expected a reversal on the grounds of corporation.

I shall be in Monticello on Tuesday or Wednesday and will see you then.

Yours, as ever
Abraham Lincoln

P.S.

You might inform Matheny of the result -
A.L.

was a wan smile on his face as he studied the document. I feared the worst as I ruefully watched the examination of the manuscript. Lowering my eyes as if I dreaded to behold myself as one of those gullible ones folks talked about so airily, I apologized.

Dr. Powell explained to me that as clever as this forger was, (bordering on genius, with his thorough knowledge of Lincoln's precise activities and characteristic handwriting, including the clever matching of ink and paper) he strangely overlooked one minor, but significant, detail of Lincoln's handwriting. Mr. Lincoln occasionally underlined words to make his meaning particularly clear to the reader. One virtually invariable feature of his was his careful avoidance of running the underlining across any letters, such as "F", "G", or "Y", that dipped below the level of the line, an example being the word "facts." If a letter with such a downstroke occurred inside a word, he would cut the underlining in two to avoid crossing it. The forger's failure to notice and reproduce this ideograph resulted in his ultimate exposure and the termination of his career.

In the Edwards letter, the underlining goes *through* the letter that dips below the level of the line. This is especially noticeable in the underlined word *Corporation*. The underlining was used in only one instance on this letter.

Isn't it remarkable that this forged letter, *which is not a copy or transcript of any Lincoln letter in existence*, discusses a mandamus case actually tried in the Bloomington, Ill., county courthouse?

ADEQUATE LEGAL FEE

And now, reverting to the "Edwards" letter and the question of legal fees, Lincoln early developed a determination to obtain ample remuneration for his work and once wrote some advice on the subject for the guidance of young lawyers:

"The matter of fees is important, far beyond the mere question of bread and butter involved. An exorbitant fee should never be claimed. As a general rule never take your

whole fee in advance, not any more than a small retainer. When fully paid beforehand you are more than a common mortal if you can feel the same interest in the case as if something was still in prospect for you, as well as your client. And when you lack interest in the case the job will very likely lack skill and diligence in the performance."

Actually, Lincoln had a distinct bias for adequate fees. His law practice was not restricted to the backwoods of Illinois. Poverty stricken, homespun clients were never refused his services. The worthy cases of the down-trodden and the poor always had his sympathetic attention, but by 1856 he represented important clients including the most powerful corporation in the state, the Illinois Central Railroad.

CASH VALUES GROWING

Because of the monetary value of Lincoln's autographed letters, they have invited extraordinary and ingenious attempts at forgery. The last autograph copy of the Gettysburg Address sold at auction in 1953, brought \$54,000. Lincoln's intimate letters to his former roommate, Joshua Speed, written in 1842 on three or four small ruled sheets, brought \$37,500, at a later auction. So it can be appreciated that handwriting experts would have plenty of inducements to produce striking facsimiles and imitations of Lincoln's letters and briefs that gullible, inexperienced collectors would buy at fancy prices.

Over 1,100,000 words that Abraham Lincoln set down on paper have survived to us. There are five copies of his immortal Gettysburg Address in his own handwriting in existence today. The Emancipation Proclamation, his second inaugural address in his own autograph, are among the priceless possessions of the American people.

On his personal letters, passes and autograph notes, his signature appears mostly as "A. Lincoln." On some notes, merely his initials, "A. L." Communications to General Grant, General McLellan, and to members of his Cabinet were signed "A Lincoln." But on official papers he signed "Abraham Lincoln."

Lincoln wrote slowly, carefully. His is one of the most legible handwritings of our Presidents. His law partner, Herndon, said Lincoln's nerves had to run a long way through dry soil to establish a connection between brain and hand. He thought and wrote and acted deliberately. Yet his handwriting has a free, fluent quality usually associated with rapid writers.

A WARNING FROM SPECIALISTS

Collectors of historical documents, manuscripts and autograph letters should be reminded that forgery is an extensively prac-

tised art and a lucrative occupation today. According to a recent United Press—International News story, check forging has become a multi-million dollar business in the United States. Bad check artists are stealing at a staggering rate of \$1,000 per minute. The thefts add up to nearly \$1,500,000 a day.

This is due largely to the fact that the use of checks has quadrupled since World War II. Furthermore, check writers have become increasingly careless and this has created a boon for check forgers, with which police are barely able to cope.

A FEW WORM HOLES

Speaking of forgeries, Lincoln documents are not the only kind that are counterfeited. We have at Blumhaven Library a beautifully bound, hand written, ancient missal, supposedly more than 500 years old—stained vellum, worm holes and all. By close microscopic examination it was discovered that the ink had run when it came close to some of the worm holes. This could only have happened if the hole was in the paper before the paper was written on.

VALID PRINCIPLES—BUT WHOSE?

1. You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift. 2. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. 3. You cannot help small men by tearing down big men. 4. You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich. 5. You cannot lift the wage-earner by pulling down the wage-payer. 6. You cannot keep out of trouble when you spend more than your income. 7. You cannot further the brotherhood of man by harboring and inciting class hatred. 8. You cannot establish sound security on borrowed money. 9. You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence. 10. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.

Some or all of these fundamentals have been, from time to time, attributed to Abraham Lincoln. Research has not established when, where and on what occasion Lincoln expressed adherence to all these principles.

BETTER MOUSE TRAP ENDORSEMENT WITH A LINCOLN TWIST

Illinois, the Land of Lincoln, continues to produce intriguing stories of its favorite son, the prairie lawyer who became our 16th President. The variety of these tales is incredible. The crop includes stories that are sentimental, mystic, philosophical, instructive, debonair—with a modern mixture of raw humor and unvarnished wisecracks. Manifestly many of these stories are apocryphal.

Asked about the purpose of his visit with ex-President Truman, as he emerged from the Independence (Mo.) Library recently, Dr. James A. Barnes, head of the History Department of Temple University, said:

"The question put to me reminds me of the fellow who approached President Lincoln with a new and better mouse trap. If Lincoln would only endorse his invention, the fellow said, he could sell a million of them and get rich. President Lincoln said certainly, he would do this small favor. So he took up his pen and wrote his endorsement as follows: 'For the sort of people who want this sort of thing, this is the sort of thing that sort of people will want.' "

Unsolved Mystery of Celebrated Bixby Letter •

Did Lincoln write it? Where is letter now? If extant, who has it? \$12,000 offered for original.

During the last week of October 1864, there was delivered to President Lincoln a batch of official War Department papers, setting forth the names of five Union soldiers, when each had died, and the battles in which they were killed. The veracity of the information submitted was attested by Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War. The five heroic soldiers were the sons of the widow Bixby of Boston.

Accompanying the papers was a letter from Gov. John A. Andrew of Massachusetts to the Secretary of the War requesting that a "letter might be written . . . (Mrs. Bixby) by the President of the United States, taking notice of a noble mother of five dead heroes so well deserved."

In accordance with this advice, President Lincoln wrote a letter of condolence to Mrs. Bixby on November 21, 1864, the facsimile of which, currently in circulation, is on the next page.

That such an eloquent letter should be shrouded in mystery is understandably vexing to Lincoln scholars. There is even some doubt about the magnitude of Mrs. Bixby's tragedy, as to the number of sons involved. Controversy as to whether Lincoln ever wrote such a letter and if it was actually delivered to the widow Bixby, continues unabated.

As to the delivery of it, there is undisputed evidence that a letter from Washington was handed to Mrs. Bixby on November 26, 1864 by William Schouler, Adjutant General of Massachusetts. *The Boston Evening Journal* of November 25, 1864 carried the copy of President Lincoln's letter, prefacing it, "The following letter was this morning received at the Adjutant General's office for Mrs. Bixby, the lady of this city referred to in General Schouler's communications to the *Journal* of Monday evening last." *The Boston Evening Transcript* of the same date also printed the

"letter addressed to Mrs. Bixby by A. Lincoln," with these introductory remarks: "Mrs. Bixby—a lady in the southern portion of this city . . . Her lonely abode was made cheerful this morning by the receipt of the following letter from President Lincoln."

In spite of this evidence and the certainty that the President himself would have been quick to deny having written the letter had he not done so, efforts to discredit the Bixby letter still persist. Those who challenge the authenticity of the letter point to the fact that no one has been able to produce the original letter for examination. General Schouler's own statement in his memoirs that he had the pleasure of placing the letter in Mrs. Bixby's hands, does not satisfy the scoffers.

It is true that no one can testify that the letter exists today, for between the date of its receipt by Mrs. Bixby in 1864 and 1878 when she died, no one is reported to have seen it. As late as 1953, two nationally circulated magazines published articles challenging the authenticity of the Bixby letter and even questioning that it was ever written. One bluntly classified the Bixby letter as a "myth." The other questioned the facsimiles which have been in circulation some 70 years or more.

Some have suggested that it was Lincoln's secretary, John Hay, not the President, who wrote the Bixby letter. As to the Hay authorship, Hay himself disposes of it in a letter written by him in 1904 saying, "The letter of Mr. Lincoln to Mrs. Bixby is genuine."

The widow Bixby could, of course, have readily disposed of such a stirring Presidential autograph letter for a fairly substantial sum. She made a poor living for herself and always needed money. Would she have had scruples against disposing of the letter? If she sold the letter, what has become of it?

According to comments by the relatives of

Mrs. Bixby, the letter does not seem to have been in the widow's possession at the time of her death, although it was but three years later in 1881 that copies were first distributed as facsimiles.

What significance, if any, is there in the fact that Michael J. Tobin of Boston secured a copyright for the facsimile of the Bixby letter in 1891? Practically all of the early students of Lincoln accepted the facsimiles as having been produced from the original letter. Lithography was the process probably used in making the plate which required a clean-cut copy

to be photographed. The character of some of the letters makes it appear as if the actual copy used was made from a tracing of the original letter.

It is fairly tenable that the facsimiles of the Bixby letter in circulation today were reproduced from an original Lincoln autograph. But who had the original letter at the time the facsimile was produced and, if it is in existence, who has it now?

\$12,000 FOR THE ORIGINAL

Blumhaven Library and Gallery hereby agrees to purchase the original autograph let-

*Executive Mansion
Washington, Nov 21. 1864*

To Mrs Bixby, Boston, Mass,

Dear Madam.

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully.

A. Lincoln

ter described above. The price it offers for the letter specified is \$12,000. The following are the stipulations of the offer to purchase:

1. The authenticity of the letter and the right of the vendor to sell it must be proved. Such proof must be acceptable to a committee of Lincoln scholars and attorneys, appointed for the purpose by the director of Blumhaven Library.

2. A handwriting expert acceptable to the committee will be required to testify as to authenticity of the handwriting and signature of the letter. His decision that the handwriting and signature are that of President Lincoln must be acceptable to the committee and

to the Director of Blumhaven Library.

3. The decision of the Director of Blumhaven Library, who is personally responsible for the financing of this offer, is final and without recourse.

4. This offer expires December 1, 1961.

A SOLEMN PROMISE

If acquired, the Bixby letter will be painstakingly protected by acetate enclosure and microfilm copies will be immediately available to the Library of Congress and the National Archives. We pledge that the original document will be available for study by accredited historians, scholars and research workers at any time upon request.

Lincoln's \$107,000 Estate, Insurance, Taxes and "Expensive" Wife

Americans have always been inquisitive about their neighbors' finances. No questions pique the curiosity so much as those concerning how much the other fellow makes, how much he was worth when he died, and to whom he left his wealth. Lincoln's assassination brought deep grief to the nation but it did not prevent the mourners from being intensely interested in the estate of the martyred President. After the burial in Springfield, Ill., it was found that Mr. Lincoln had made no will.

In 1866, when his estate came before the probate court, it amounted to approximately \$97,000. This included the comfortable Lincoln home in Springfield. When Mr. Lincoln became President, he had a modest sum representing the savings from his law practice in Illinois. Despite the manifest extravagances of his wife, Mr. Lincoln was able, because of his frugal habits, to save a considerable portion of his \$25,000 per year salary as President, which was in his savings account when he died. When the estate was finally settled in 1867, this sum, plus accrued interest, totaled \$107,000. However, there were unpaid bills in Washington, Philadelphia and New York that Mrs. Lincoln had incurred. These

liabilities against the estate amounted to between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

During the years that she was mistress of the White House, Mrs. Lincoln developed an inordinate fondness for jewelry and fine clothes. The extent and elegance of her wardrobe was regarded by Washington society as being beyond the call of her obligations as the First Lady of the land. Just a week before the death of her husband, she made a trip to New York and bought, on credit, \$2,500 worth of jewelry and "stylish" clothing.

The executor of Lincoln's estate, Justice David Davis of the Supreme Court, whom Lincoln had appointed, refused to honor some of these bills. The nation, in deep mourning, regarded with disdain any idea of pressure to collect these and/or similar debts from the grief-stricken widow. Most of the creditors of the estate wrote off their losses gracefully; a few, after perfunctory legal proceedings.

HAD NO LIFE INSURANCE

Although the country's life insurance in force in 1865 amounted to 581 million dollars, Mr. Lincoln had no life insurance protection for his family during his lifetime. The Insti-



—From Leslie's Weekly, Nov. 8, 1862

Mrs. Lincoln justified her extravagance and craving for fashion leadership in dresses, saying, "The people scrutinize every article that I wear with critical curiosity."

tute of Life Insurance has no record of any application for insurance by President Lincoln. There is a complete report of the administration of Lincoln's estate, but there is no mention in it of any personal life insurance.

There is even no information about Lincoln's insurability. The Institute of Life In-

surance has no record of Mr. Lincoln ever having been medically examined during his term of office.

In Mr. Lincoln's early days as a practicing attorney in Illinois, life insurance had not yet been popularized. It would be more of a surprise to find a rising young attorney carrying

life insurance in the western country than to learn that he made no such provisions for the future, even after he married and assumed family responsibilities.

It is interesting in this connection to note that in 1860, the "Hon. A. Lincoln, Springfield, Ill." was solicited for an application for a \$2,000 policy, the premium to be paid when Mr. Lincoln was elected President. A transcript of this solicitation, the original of which is in the Library of Congress, follows:

LOAN AGENCY, COLLECTION AND
INSURANCE OFFICE

Chicago, Ill.
May 29, 1860

Hon A. Lincoln
Springfield, Ill.

Dear Sir:

We enclose herewith blanks for an application and medical examination, hoping that we may be honored with the privilege of insuring your life. We also enclose a statement of our company for 1859. If you should conclude to insure, please fill out and sign enclosed blank application and get any regular physician to make the examination. If you will give us your application for \$2,000 we will take the cash payment, when you are elected president, and will charge you no interest from now to November.

Yours respectfully,

L. O. Olmstead & Co.
pr. W. H. Bridgman

HIS SALARY DENTED, TOO

In 1861 Congress levied a 1½ percent income tax which was increased to 5 percent four years later. Under this law Lincoln paid \$3,585.09 in taxes from the time his salary of \$25,000 a year started in March 1861 until he died on April 15, 1865. The records show

that these taxes were withheld from the President's salary, month by month.

Lincoln's estate got back all except \$29.15. That was the amount of tax Lincoln paid on \$1,183 of "income outside his salary" in 1863.

REFUND TO SON ROBERT TODD

Internal Revenue records show that Lincoln, himself, never made a claim for a refund on his "outside" income. After his death Justice David Davis, administrator of the Lincoln estate, did file a claim for refund.

When Davis received the Government's check for \$3,555.94 on April 27, 1872, he endorsed it to the account of Robert T. Lincoln in a Washington bank. Why the widow of the President, who in 1872 was persistently complaining about her financial distress, did not receive the tax refund is not indicated by the record. Her need was very real and the refund could not have been denied her on ground of mental incompetency, for it wasn't until 1875 that she was for a short time confined to a mental hospital.

The reason the money was refunded was that Secretary of the Treasury George L. Boutwell decided on April 1, 1872 that taxing the salary of the President, or of Supreme Court Justices, unconstitutionally reduced their salaries. The Constitution forbids reducing the salary of the President or of the Justices while they are in office.

The Civil War income tax had been repealed two years before Boutwell made his decision. But the ruling was in effect until 1932, when it was decided that the President and the Justices should pay taxes.

ITEM OF NATIONAL DEFENSE

Edwin Markham, remembered for his poem, "The Man with the Hoe," once said, "Lincoln is a greater possession to us than all battleships and a greater safety to us than all our arms."

Could Lincoln's Life Have Been Saved?

Some mystery still surrounds the shooting of President Lincoln in Ford's Theatre on April 14, 1865. All the ghastly details of the shiftless protection given Mr. Lincoln and the clumsy handling of the wounded man after the shooting, will probably be never known.

One of the unanswered questions: Could President Lincoln have recovered if today's medical science had been available to him? The assassination and the surgical procedure, thereafter, may be summarized as follows:

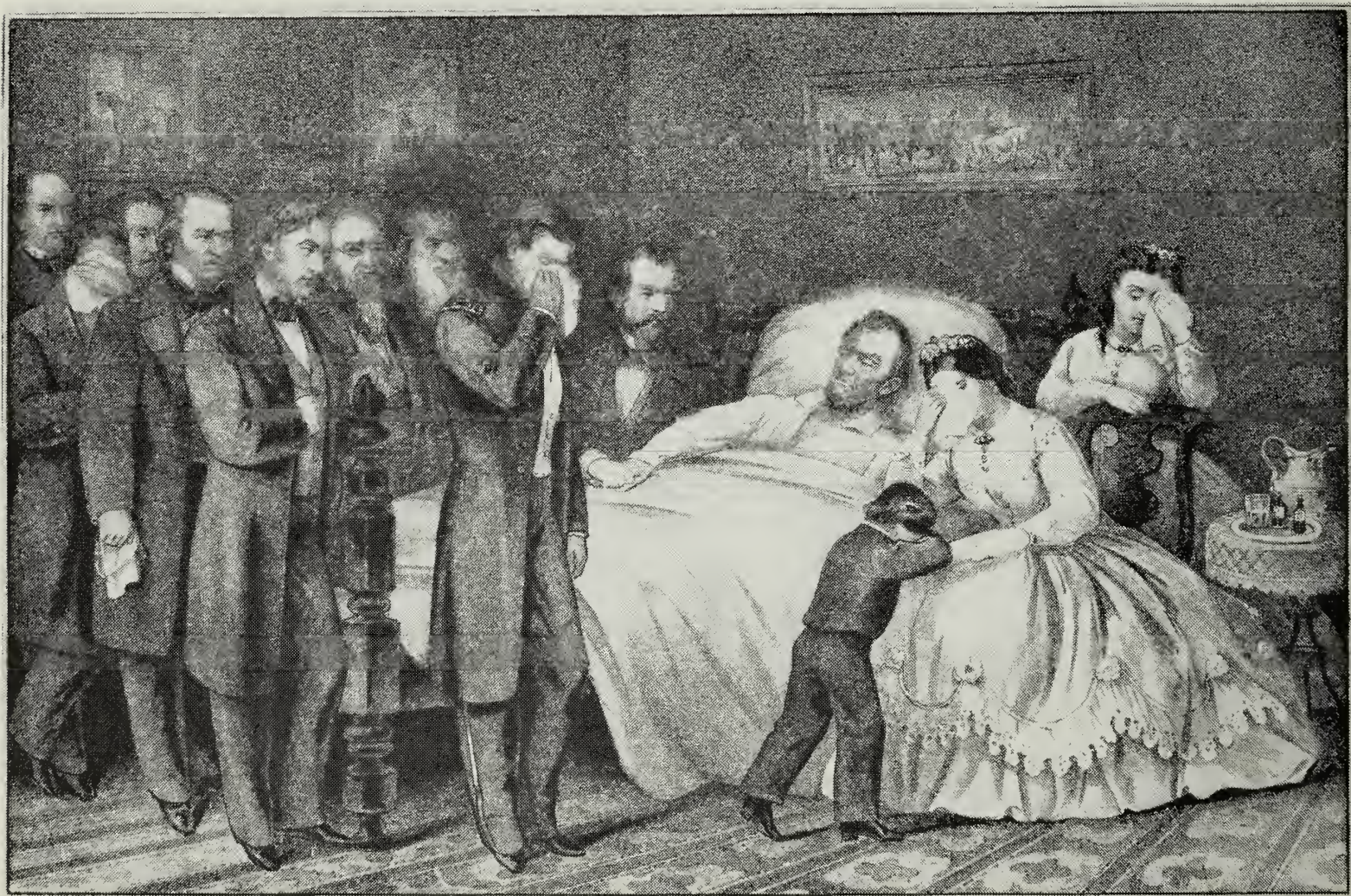
About 10:15 on the evening of April 14, 1865, John Wilkes Booth, the lead actor of the play at the Ford Theatre was waiting in the vestibule of the President's box, watching through a peephole he had bored earlier—awaiting his opportunity. Then, slipping into the box, he shot Lincoln in the back of the head. After a brief scuffle with Major Rath-

bone, Booth jumped to the stage, 12 feet below, and ran into the alley where his horse was waiting.

Two Army doctors, C. A. Leale and C. S. Taft, rushed to Lincoln, and tried to revive him with artificial respiration and brandy. He was then carried to a house across the street. Doctors and officials assembled there, and the night's vigil began. With a probe, doctors found that the bullet had traveled seven inches into the President's brain. The bullet had caused severe hemorrhage, and had done irreparable damage to vital brain tissue. There was little they could do; at 7:22 a.m., nine hours after he was shot, the unconscious Mr. Lincoln died.

As a layman, one may speculate something like this:

Here was a rugged man, 56 years old, who



Death of President Lincoln, as pictured by Currier & Ives. Those at his bedside, left to right: Chief Justice Chase, Atty-General McCulloch, Vice President Johnson, Charles Sumner, Secretary Stanton, Secretary Wells, Robert T. Lincoln, Surgeon General, President Lincoln, Mrs. Lincoln and son, Tad, Miss Harris.

had never abused himself; he was a former rail-splitter and a sturdy backwoodsman; he had natural recuperative powers and endurance. Could our surgeons of 1960 have saved this man—

(a) By probing for and removing the bullet?

(b) By removing, under anesthetic, the necessary amount of damaged brain tissue to prevent the spread of infection?

(c) By administering anti-biotics and sulfa drugs?

(d) By blood transfusion?

A non-technical opinion: Abraham Lincoln, suffering the same wound today, could have survived.

A medical opinion: Lincoln's chances of recovery today would be better than 50-50, if the forces of modern medicine were marshalled soon enough to prevent complications and exhaustion. The question, of course, is whether the area of the brain tissue destroyed by the bullet was a vital one. If vital and surgically removed, this could be fatal. The removal of other than vital brain tissue in danger of gangrene, would be beneficial, although this may impair some of the powers of the patient. His recovery under those circumstances would require expert and dedicated nursing and lengthy convalescence. Antibiotics, of course, are taken for granted. As to blood transfusions, we have to have available blood of the proper rating.

Those Lincoln Papers In Library of Congress

On February 10, 1958, Major General U. S. Grant, III, grandson of the Civil War hero and 18th President of the United States, and Dr. C. Percy Powell, director of the Manuscripts Division of the Library of Congress, were guests of honor of the Lincoln-Civil War Society of Philadelphia, when the group was entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Blum at the Blumhaven Library and Galleries, 4651 Leiper street.

Dr. Powell told of his experiences in indexing and cataloging the 18,000 items in the Lincoln papers donated to the Library of Congress by Robert Todd Lincoln, the President's eldest son. He explained that, although the documents shed no new light on Lincoln's career or personality, they are valuable in filling in many gaps in the Lincoln story. The papers were opened to the public in 1947, 21 years after Robert Lincoln's death, as specified in the deed of gift.

He had directed that his father's papers be kept secret and purged of all references that might injure Mr. Lincoln's associates. It was 82 years after Lincoln's death that these papers were finally released for publication.

The remarks in the following paragraphs are the editor's, not Dr. Powell's:

There was a story current during the closing years of Nicholas Murray Butler, the pontifical president of Columbia University, that one day he came upon Robert Todd Lincoln in the act of "burning or destroying" what appeared to be a great quantity of his father's papers. He was just in the nick of time and was able to prevent the destruction of most of these papers.

There is no evidence of this occurrence or in fact of any deliberate destruction of Lincoln papers. There is reason to believe that Robert Todd Lincoln culled over his father's papers and eliminated letters and items of an intimate and personal nature before turning the papers over to the Library of Congress. Mrs. Lincoln removed a substantial number of personal letters she received while in the White House.

Many of these are in the possession of the trustees of the David Davis Estate in Bloomington, Ill. The Davis of the Civil War period was Lincoln's campaign manager, Justice of the Supreme Court and executor of Lincoln's estate.

Mrs. Robert Todd Lincoln gave to the Library of Congress the Bible on which President Lincoln took the oath of office.

Vital Statistics of Lincoln Family •

It was his grandfather, not his father, who was scalped by Indians—Uncle Mordecai and another Thomas Lincoln.

FATHER—Thomas Lincoln: third son of Abraham and (Bathsheba Herring) Lincoln.

Born—Jan. 6 (1776 or 1778) Linville Creek, Rockingham County, Va. (Tombstone gives date Jan. 6, 1778)

Married (1st) June 12, 1806 Nancy Hanks, Beech Fork, Washington County, Ky.

Married (2nd) Dec. 2, 1819 Sarah Bush Johnston, widow, Elizabethtown, Ky.

Died—Jan. 17, 1851 (Tombstone gives date Jan. 15) near Farmington, Coles County, Ill. Age 75 or 73. Buried in Shilo Cemetery near Janesville, Ill.

MOTHER—Nancy Hanks: Only daughter of (James) and Lucy Shipley Hanks.

Born—Feb. 5, 1784 Hatt Creek near Brookneal, Campbell County, Va.

Married June 12, 1806 Thomas Lincoln, home of her guardian Richard Berry, Beech Fork, Washington County, Ky.

Died—Oct. 5, 1818 at Little Pigeon Creek, Spencer County, Ind. Age (35) years. Died of milk-sickness. Buried in private cemetery close by home, now included in Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Park.

STEPMOTHER—Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln: One of nine children of Christopher and Hannah Bush.

Born—Dec. 12, 1788 at Elizabethtown, Ky.

Married (1st) March 11, 1806 Daniel Johnston, Elizabethtown, Ky.

Married (2nd) Oct. 2, 1819 Thomas Lincoln, Elizabethtown, Ky.

Died—Dec. 10, 1869 near Farmington, Coles County, Ill. Age 81. Buried in Shilo Cemetery near Janesville, Ill.

SISTER—Sarah Lincoln Grigsby: First child of Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln.

Born—Feb. 10, 1807 Elizabethtown, Ky.

Married Aug. 2, 1826 Aaron Grigsby, Spencer County, Ind.

Died—Jan. 20, 1828 near Gentry Store,

Spencer County, Ind. Age 21. Death due to childbirth, infant buried in same grave with her at Pigeon Church Cemetery, Ind.

BROTHER—Thomas Lincoln: Third child and second son of Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln.

Born—(1811) Knob Creek, Hardin County now Larue, two miles south of present town of Athertonville.

Died—(1813) Knob Creek. Age (2) yrs. Buried in Redmond cemetery near home. Grave with headstone marked "T. L." discovered several years ago.

LINCOLN'S FATHER AND THE PROVERBIAL INDIAN MASSACRE

On March 9, 1861, *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* devoted its entire front page to President-elect Lincoln. In this impressive space, 24 inches high by 16 inches wide, there appeared a striking portrait of Lincoln from a "phot. by P. Butler, Springfield, Ill." It is a handsome, beardless profile of the President-elect.

Bordering the portrait of Lincoln are sketches labeled, "scenes and incidents in his life." These depict Lincoln splitting rails, cropping cornstalks, tending store, studying law, arguing a case in court, and leading a charge against the Indians in the Black Hawk War. There is also a curious sketch, reproduced here, and identified as "*Lincoln's Father Killed By The Indians.*" The mention of Lincoln's *father* was no misprint. It is part of the drawing executed by the artist and reproduced by *Leslie's*.

That this bewildering sketch, in which the featured victim of the Indians was identified as Lincoln's father, should have been unchallenged, remains a puzzle for historians. For, as was well known, it was Lincoln's *grand-*



Sketch (exact size) from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper.

father, not his *father*, who was killed by the Indians.

Lincoln himself could not have missed the cover-page broadside that *Leslie's Magazine* devoted to his colorful career or the definite error it made about his father. It was noted at the time that both Lincoln's supporters and detractors were equally aware of the implications of the sketch. The former dismissed it as typographical error; the latter as a clumsy contrivance of the partisan press to confuse the people about Lincoln's parentage.

Was it a deliberate move to distract those who were engaged in a whispering campaign about the legitimacy of Lincoln's birth? There is no record of any correction of the mistake in the sketch or that it was related to the slur that Thomas Lincoln was not Abraham Lincoln's father.

As far as the Indian was concerned, he had raised his tomahawk and was about to scalp the prostrate man in a soldier's uniform. And

he certainly didn't care whether his victim was Lincoln's daddy or his grandpappy!

In the courthouse of Washington County, Kentucky, are the signed marriage papers of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks. The date of the marriage was recorded as June 12, 1806. Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809.

Abraham Lincoln's *grandfather* was massacred by the Indians while he was trying to establish a homestead in the wilderness of Kentucky in 1786. He was working in the field when attacked, and was *not* slain in battle wearing a military uniform, as shown in the *Leslie* sketch.

In 1854, Lincoln wrote to one of his relatives about the massacre of his grandfather in these words: "The story of his death by the Indians and of Uncle Mordecai, then 14 years old, killing one of the Indians, is the legend more strongly than all others imprinted upon my mind and memory." The grandfather was

only about 40 years old and his widow was left in the wilderness with five children of whom the 14-year-old Mordecai was the oldest.

ANOTHER THOMAS LINCOLN

There is a holographic deed in the Blumhaven Library which originally had been filed in the Fayette County, Kentucky, Courthouse on January 7, 1809. The indenture was made between Thomas Lincoln of the one part and Margrett, Onan, Elizabeth Rice, Catherine Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln, George Lincoln, John Lincoln, David Lincoln, and Hannah Lincoln, "all of which being the lawful children of the said Thomas Lincoln" of the other part. Out of special regard he bore his said children, Thomas Lincoln conveyed 190 acres of land situated on the south fork of the Elkhorn River to them. The deed was recorded and witnessed by the clerk of Fayette County, J. D. Young.

This branch of the Lincoln family was one of a number living in Kentucky, but not directly related to President Lincoln. President Lincoln was born about a month after the deed was executed. The Thomas Lincoln who signed the deed died in 1819.

GREAT GRANDFATHER MORDECAI

The provenance of this ancient document is fairly well authenticated. It was in the collection of the late Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania (1843-1916). How long Governor Pennypacker had it in his collection is unknown; from whom he acquired it is also unknown. Four years after Gover-

nor Pennypacker's death, the document was sold by Freeman's of Philadelphia, in 1920, to Oliver R. Barrett of Chicago, the famous Lincoln collector, from whom Blumhaven Library acquired it.

On the last page of the Mordecai Lincoln autograph letter the late Mr. Barrett, in his own handwriting, wrote the following note:

"Mordecai Lincoln, great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln. This letter was in Samuel Nutt's ledger B, 1726 at the page of the account with Lincoln. Circa 1729. Mrs. Anna Nutt died 1759. From the Pennypacker sale at Saml. Freeman's, Phila., 1920."

The Mordecai Lincoln letter reads, in part, as follows: "There is no call for the paggs [sic] and so we stored them and I will dispose of them as Soon as I can Notwithstanding I Should of Sent the things up but the Whether [sic] was So bad I was afraid we Would all be Whet [sic]. I have Sent hooks 0-0-6. I have sent the [word has ink blot on it] Tobacco."

"Sent I have

"Lincoln"

On the second page is written the following: "20—6=120+10=130."

"Butler Prichard—one Gallon of Mullas" [molasses]—"fryly one Gallon of Mullas."

Accompanying the above are four notes and bills of sale found in the ledger of Samuel Nutt, of which the more legible ones read as follows: "Frd. (forward)—Acquilla Jones."

"Pleas to send by the Bearer one Tun of Piggs [sic] and Charge the Same to Accot. of Anna Nutt."

"Aprol 17 1753"

DISCOVERIES & INVENTIONS BY YOUNG AMERICA!

The manuscript of Lincoln's first lecture bears no date. It is in his own handwriting. Its delivery to audiences in Springfield, Jacksonville, Clinton and Bloomington appears to have been between about 1856 and 1857. It is recorded that at Jacksonville (as in other places) door receipts were so small that Lincoln said to the committee, "Be hopeful, boys. Pay my railroad fare and fifty cents for my supper at the hotel and we'll call it square."

The following is a significant excerpt from the lecture Lincoln called "Discoveries, Inventions and Improvements": "We have all heard of Young America. He is the most *current* youth of the age. Some think him conceited, and arrogant; but has he not reason to entertain a rather extensive opinion of himself? Is he not the inventor and owner of the *present*, and sole hope of the *future*?"

"I Was Born" -- Two Lincoln Autobiographies •

Lincoln furnished the following 41-word record of his life for the Dictionary of Congress for the year 1858:

Born February 12, 1809, in Hardin County, Kentucky. Education Defective. Profession a lawyer.

Have been a captain of volunteers in the Black Hawk war.

Postmaster at a very small office.

Four times in the Illinois Legislature.

And was a member of the lower House of Congress.

It is not generally known, however, that besides the brief record he submitted for the Congressional dictionary, Lincoln subsequently wrote a more elaborate and most personal autobiography.

During the campaign for U. S. Senatorship in 1858, Lincoln stumped Illinois in a series of debates with his Democratic opponent, Stephen A. Douglas. It was at one of these debates that Lincoln received a letter from Jesse W. Fell, an ardent supporter of his, requesting that he furnish a detailed biographical sketch of himself, to be used in preparing an article on Lincoln for a newspaper. The enterprising Mr. Fell, who later was appointed paymaster of the Army by President Lincoln, desired to bring the career of his hero before the Nation in such a way as to promote his candidacy for the higher honors to which Lincoln manifestly aspired.

The request for an autobiography was not complied with by Mr. Lincoln until December 20, 1859, when he sent a one page letter and a two and one-half page sketch of himself to Fell. The autobiography was written with characteristic candor and simplicity and the article based upon it was first published in the Chester County Times (Chester, Pa.) on February 11, 1860. Subsequently, it was widely copied in Republican papers throughout the country.

It is noteworthy that in his letter of transmittal, Lincoln cautioned Fell that it must not appear that the sketch had been written by Lincoln himself. Another interesting feature of the sketch is the deletion of the words "reading, writing and arithmetic" and the substitution of the phrase, "readin, writin, and cipherin."

Springfield

Dec. 20, 1859

"J. W. Fell, Esq

"My dear Sir:

"Herewith is a little sketch, as you requested. There is not much of it, for the reason, I suppose, that there is not much of me.

"If anything be made out of it, I wish it to be modest, and not to go beyond the material. If it were thought necessary to incorporate anything from any of my speeches, I suppose there would be no objection. Of course it must not appear to have been written by myself.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN"

"I was born Feb. 12, 1809, in Hardin County, Kentucky. My parents were both born in Virginia, of undistinguished families—second families, perhaps I should say. My mother, who died in my tenth year, was of a family of the name of Hanks, some of whom now reside in Adams, and others in Macon counties, Illinois. My paternal grandfather, Abraham Lincoln, emigrated from Rockingham County, Virginia, to Kentucky, about 1781 or 2, where, a year or two later, he was killed by Indians, not in battle, but by stealth, when (where?) he was laboring to open a farm in the forest. His ancestors, who were quakers, went to Virginia from Berks County, Pennsylvania. An effort to identify them with the New England family of the same name ended in nothing more definite than a similarity of Christian names in both families, such

as Enoch, Levi, Mordecai, Solomon, Abraham and the like.

“My father, at the death of his father, was but six years of age; and he grew up, literally without education. He removed from Kentucky to what is now Spencer county, Indiana, in my eighth year. We reached our new home about the time the State came into the Union. It was a wild region, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods. There I grew up. There were some schools, so called; but no qualification was ever required of a teacher, beyond “readin, writin, and cipherin,” to the Rule of Three. If a straggler supposed to understand latin, happened to sojourn in the neighborhood, he was looked upon as a wizzard. There was absolutely nothing to excite ambition for education. Of course when I came of age I did not know much. Still somehow, I could read, write, and cipher to the Rule of Three; but that was all. I have not been to school since. The little advance I now have upon this store of education, I have picked up from time to time under the pressure of necessity.

“I was raised to farm work, which I continued till I was twenty-two. At twenty-one I came to Illinois, and passed the first year in Illinois-Macon county. Then I got to New-Salem, (at that time in Sangamon, now in Menard county) where I remained a year as a sort of Clerk in a store. Then came the Black Hawk war; and I was elected a Captain of Volunteers—a success which gave me more pleasure than any I have had since. I went the campaign, was elated, ran for the Legislature the same year (1832) and was beaten—the only time I have been beaten by the people. The next, and three succeeding biennial

elections, I was elected to the Legislature. I was not a candidate afterwards. During this Legislative period I had studied law, and removed to Springfield to practice it. In 1846 I was once elected to the lower House of Congress. Was not a candidate for re-election. From 1849 to 1854, both inclusive, practiced law more assiduously than ever before. Always a whig in politics, and generally on the whig electoral tickets, making active canvasses. I was losing interest in politics, when the repeal of the Missouri Compromise aroused me again. What I have done since then is pretty well known.

“If any personal description of me is thought desirable, it may be said, I am, in height, six feet, four inches, nearly; lean in flesh, weighing, on an average, one hundred and eighty pounds; dark complexion, with coarse black hair, and grey eyes—no other marks or brands recollected.

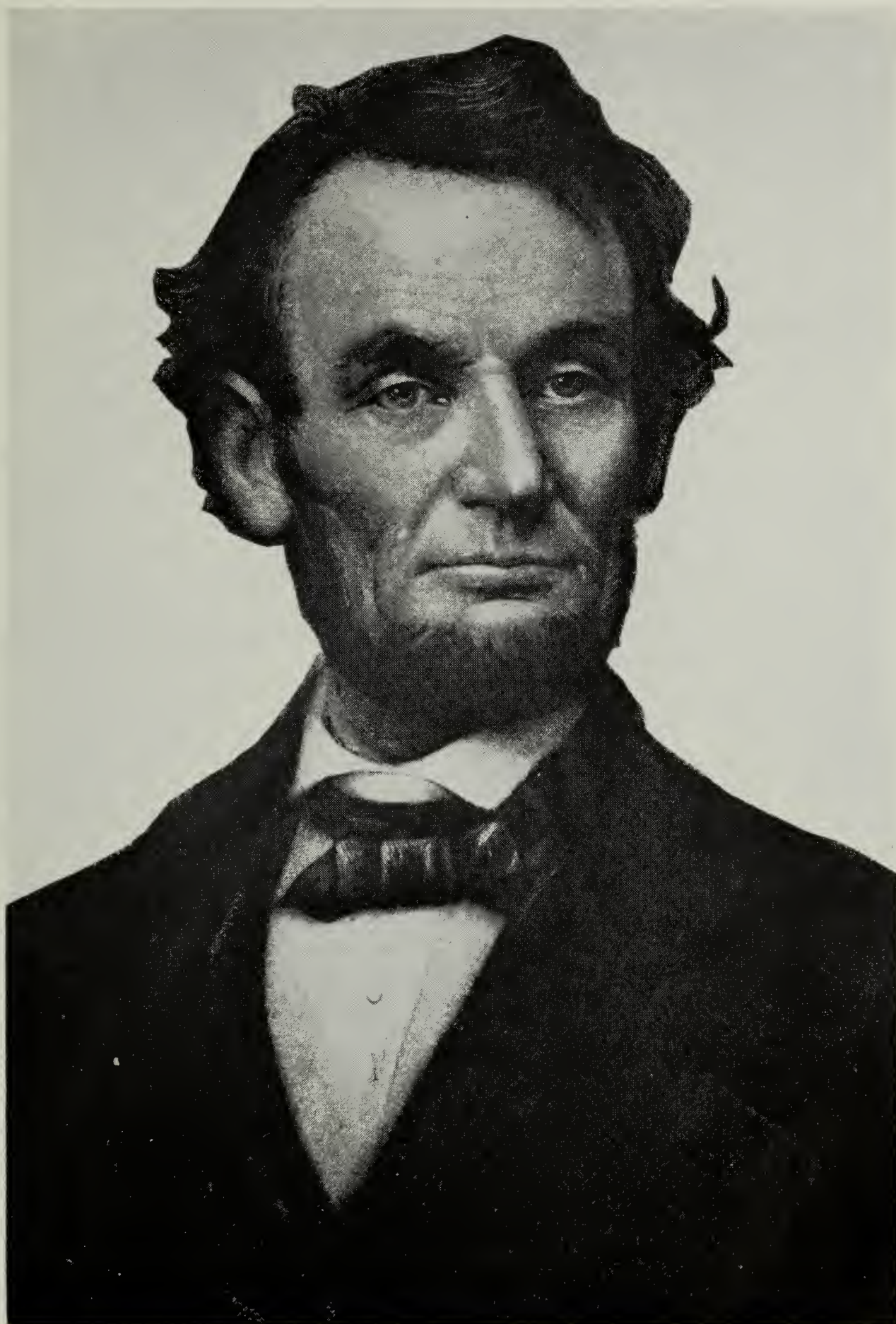
A. LINCOLN

“Yours very truly
Hon. J. W. Fell.”

At the time when the sketch was first reproduced in facsimile in 1872, some doubt arose as to the authenticity of the document. To allay these apprehensions three prominent men examined it and then certified the genuineness of the handwriting and signature of Lincoln on the original manuscript of the sketch. The certificate was duly signed in Washington on March 20, 1872 by David Davis, Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court and Executor of Lincoln’s Will; U. S. Senator Charles Sumner, one of the early advocates of Emancipation; and U. S. Senator Lyman Trumbull of Illinois.

“HORID MELANCHOLLY DISCLOSIER”

Lincoln’s spelling in letters he wrote from 1830 to 1843 left much to be desired. A check of the letters he wrote during those early years shows that he slipped up on the spelling of close to 100 words. He had frequent difficulty with words like *beginning* and *very*, spelling them *begining* and *verry*. The word *prairie* appears as *prairy*, *melancholy* as *melancholly*. He was inclined to add to or omit consonants in words like *bussiness*, *considderation*, *immagination*, *horid*, and *intelect*. *Horid*, *melancholly*, and *disclosier* appear in various letters that Lincoln wrote during that period, but not all the three functionally spelled words are found in one letter or in the same sentence.



*Alexander Gardner photograph, posed for by Mr. Lincoln during
August or September, 1863.*

Blumhaven Conducts Poll

Rating Our Presidents •

Classified as great, near-great and average. Lincoln at top of list in landslide. Lincoln's opinion of Washington.

In 1948, Harvard's history professor, Dr. Arthur M. Schlesinger polled 55 college professors to ascertain their opinions as to the comparative rating of our Presidents. The group whose views were sought were referred to by the press as "colleagues" of Professor Schlesinger

The names of those participating in the poll were not revealed in the tabulation of the result.

The poll showed that *Lincoln* received 55 votes for first position in the list. William H. Harrison and James A. Garfield were omitted because of their short tenure in office. Truman was still President in 1948, and was therefore also omitted.

The final Schlesinger ratings or rank as to greatness and the value of their accomplishments for the country were as follows:

GREAT

- 1. Abraham Lincoln
- 2. George Washington
- 3. F. D. Roosevelt
- 4. Woodrow Wilson
- 5. Thomas Jefferson
- 6. Andrew Jackson

NEAR GREAT

- 7. Theodore Roosevelt
- 8. Grover Cleveland
- 9. John Adams
- 10. James K. Polk

AVERAGE

- 11. John Q. Adams
- 12. James Monroe
- 13. Rutherford Hayes
- 14. James Madison
- 15. Martin Van Buren
- 16. William H. Taft
- 17. Chester A. Arthur

- 18. William McKinley
- 19. Andrew Johnson
- 20. Herbert Hoover
- 21. Benjamin Harrison

BELOW AVERAGE

- 22. John Tyler
- 23. Calvin Coolidge
- 24. Millard Fillmore
- 25. Zachary Taylor
- 26. James Buchanan
- 27. Franklin Pierce

FAILURE

- 28. U. S. Grant
- 29. Warren G. Harding

THE BLUMHAVEN POLL

On May 15, 1960, I decided to conduct an equivalent poll. My request for a vote was mailed to 50 outstanding public figures. The poll was not confined to college professors, but included recognized authorities in other fields than American history. It was stated in my inquiry that credit for opinions expressed would be given each individual who authorized the use of his name when the replies would be compiled for publication in our *Blumhaven Digest*.

We did not specify a standard scale for evaluation, assuming that each voter would work out his own standard.

Twenty-six replies were received. A fairly large percentage of those who expressed firm opinions wished to remain anonymous. Some feared their opinions would be interpreted as being politically slanted, particularly as to living ex-Presidents and recently deceased ones. Others felt that their views would be regarded as those of the institution they represented, rather than their individual opinion. Therefore, with a couple of personal exceptions, the voting remains anonymous.

We confined the ratings to *great* and *near great*. Tabulating the vote in these categories only, Lincoln received all but one vote for first place.

The poll:

GREAT

1. Lincoln—25 votes
2. Washington—22
3. Jefferson—18
4. Wilson—16
5. Theodore Roosevelt—16
6. F. D. Roosevelt—15

NEAR GREAT

7. John Adams
8. Wilson
9. Jackson
10. Monroe
11. Madison
12. Taft

CANDID OPINIONS

We append hereto comments of a few of the voters:

Head of the History Department of very large eastern college—"It is relatively easy to classify our Presidents as excellent, good, medium, poor, and worthless. But ranking them according to New England's old social rating of 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. is difficult if not impossible. I would not know whether to put Harding above Grant or Grant above Harding. Getting the first half-dozen might be reasonably easy, but beyond that it would grow harder and harder. The college A, B, C, D, and E for failure would be relatively simple, but not without its problems—but that would simply be in other terms: excellent, good, average, poor, and failure. Any measure you try would bring interesting results."

History professor, New England College—"I doubt that I (or anyone else) could judiciously do what you request. It would in my mind be an idle and impossible exercise to attempt to decide, for instance, whether Buchanan should be listed as 18th or 24th. I can, however, list in order of greatness those Presidents who in my opinion deserve recognition for their outstanding contributions.

In the order named: Lincoln, Jefferson, Wilson, F. D. Roosevelt, Washington, Polk, T. Roosevelt, Cleveland, Jackson and Arthur.

Top echelon historian, author of numerous history books—"Alas, Mr. Blum, it would take half a day to arrange the Presidents in order. As you know, I am so pressed by work, I don't have a half hour. My list would be conventional as to Lincoln and Washington. I would rate T. R., 3rd, F. D. R., 4th, Wilson, 5th; all above Jefferson."

The head of the History Department of a large mid-western state university—"Ranking Lincoln as the greatest of Presidents would be acceptable to most historians. Washington, Jefferson, and Jackson come next. John Adams, the two Roosevelts and Wilson were outstanding Presidents. All such judgments of course are highly subjective and debatable, and a good case could be made for putting Washington, first, Lincoln, second, Jefferson, third, and John Adams, fourth, but I prefer the rank above."

Professor Emeritus, large eastern college—"I would place Jackson in NEAR GREAT instead of 6th and last in the GREAT. While Jackson was a dynamic person he had violent prejudices, intense hatreds of his political opponents and a woeful lack of information about government. He did make numerous great decisions and he chanced to be President during a great transition in our history. He was a reasonably good judge of men in the matter of the selection of his cabinet and administrative assistants.

A CRITIC OF F. D. R.

"Under classification GREAT, I select Lincoln, first, Washington, second, followed by Cleveland and T. Roosevelt. F. D. R. comes in the NEAR GREAT rating. He was a great President as far as the period of the war was concerned, but he had many strikes against him—his hypocrisy in the campaign of 1932; his advocacy of the series of measures enacted by Congress upon his recommendation designed to keep us out of war, and his violations of all of them in secret agreements with Churchill that led us into war; his "unconditional surrender" pronouncement at Casa-

blanca, and his utter failure at Yalta, Teheran, etc. etc. etc. He was a great war President, however. John Adams was, I think, one of our greatest Americans. No one can read the ten or twelve volumes of the published writings, as I have two or three times, without being impressed with the great breadth of his knowledge and the power of his mind. He was, however, a second rate politician and lacked, consequently, the ability to work with any degree of harmony with the Congress. He was unfortunate in that his Presidency came during the closing years of an order that was fast passing into history and he failed to grasp this fact. As an executive, or administrator, he was not a great success. He was reasonably successful in getting able men on his working staff, and he did appoint John Marshall, but I doubt if he actually recognized the potential latent powers of Marshall at the time of his appointment.

“Jefferson was one of the greatest men who ever occupied the Presidency—brilliant, intelligent, with a vast fund of knowledge in nearly every field. However, he was often indecisive as President. He was a man of ideas and great vision but not very practical in putting into practice his ideas. His cabinet was composed of able men but not outstanding. With all his weaknesses as an administrator, I think I would place him third among our great Presidents. His Presidency came on the crest of a great transition period in our history and this was a great help to him.”

Director of a heavily endowed historical society—“Outside of my personal admiration for Lincoln, I would express no opinion. We have learned the hard way, that such opinions are usually regarded as those of the Society.”

ONE VOTE AGAINST

A high school principal—“I wish in our colleges and wherever young men are trained, particularly for political life, that there could be a course in Lincoln. I wish our young people could become more intimately acquainted with the addresses Lincoln delivered; I wish they could get in close touch with that remarkable personality; and they would never find it possible to take a low or sordid view of

American opportunity. Other worthwhile Presidents are difficult to rank fairly.”

A chamber of commerce executive—“What purpose does a poll like that serve? A competitive business in the historical field? Without voting, we would select Lincoln for first place in the hearts of our citizens.”

The one vote against Lincoln for first place among our GREAT Presidents, came from a history professor at a large eastern state university. His interesting list:

GREAT: 1. Washington, 2. Lincoln, 3. Franklin D. Roosevelt, 4. Jackson, 5. Theodore Roosevelt, 6. Woodrow Wilson.

NEAR GREAT: 1. Thomas Jefferson, 2. Grover Cleveland, 3. John Quincy Adams, 4. James K. Polk, 5. Dwight D. Eisenhower, 6. Harry Truman.

AVERAGE: 1. John Adams, 2. James Madison, 3. James Monroe, 4. Martin Van Buren, 5. Harrison-Tyler, 6. Taylor-Fillmore, 7. Buchanan, 8. Johnson, 9. Grant, 10. Hayes, 11. Garfield-Arthur, 12. Harrison, 13. McKinley, 14. Taft, 15. Harding, 16. Coolidge, 17. Hoover.

It may be mentioned here that President Eisenhower displays in his private office pictures of those he regards as four great Americans. The two Presidents represented are Lincoln and Washington. Others displayed: Benjamin Franklin and Gen. Robert E. Lee.

In conclusion, I yield to the temptation to reveal how a militant new-dealer, articulate editor and publisher voted in the poll and what he said about it.

The voter: J. David Stern, affectionately remembered as the former publisher of the controversial *Philadelphia Record* and the milder *Camden (N. J.) Courier-Post*.

Stern's remarks: “More power to you, Herman! You go right ahead refereeing these historical games.” His vote: 1. Lincoln, 2. Jefferson, 3. Franklin D. Roosevelt, 4. George Washington, 5. Harry Truman.

ESTIMATE OF WASHINGTON

My heartfelt eulogy of Abraham Lincoln, delivered on the 150th anniversary of his birth, February 12, 1959, in the Frankford

High school auditorium of Philadelphia, brought me a substantial amount of fan mail. One letter, arriving on February 22, was critical of my Lincoln appraisal.

“The way you speak of Lincoln, one would think you were related to him,” wrote this correspondent. “Tell me, do you have it in your heart to say a kind word or two about George Washington, the father of our country?”

Yes indeed! Not only that, but I bring as a witness and quote the testimony of none other than Abraham Lincoln.

On February 22, 1842, in Springfield, Ill., let’s see what Lincoln said about Washington.

“Washington is the mightiest name on earth,” Lincoln declared. “He is enshrined as one of our immortals, long since mightiest in the cause of civil liberty, still mightiest in moral reformation. On that name no eulogy is expected. It cannot be. To add brightness to the sun or glory to the name of Washington is alike impossible. Let none attempt it. In solemn awe pronounce the name, and in its naked deathless splendor leave it shining on.”

Lincoln’s Care with Dollar Spans Century

Among readers’ letters to the Bulletin (*Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*) this one appeared with a three-column headline on April 15, 1960:

“To the bureaucrat who inherently screams for appropriations, the idea of a government official *getting more money* than he can use and returning to the Federal treasury what he didn’t spend, is something just short of blasphemy.

“Anything is possible in Washington, but when an occurrence like that takes place, it’s not just an event. It’s a spiritual manifestation or the advent of righteousness. Such an incredible phenomenon, however, did evolve in Washington this month.

“This is how the situation came about:

“To observe the 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln’s birth, Congress established the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission. So the Commission could carry on its nationwide commemorative program, Congress appropriated for it a moderate sum in 1958 and a more substantial amount in 1959.

“But who would have guessed that the executive director of the Commission was not only a dedicated Lincoln student, but also an ardent Lincoln autograph collector? Also, that he had located or possessed a particularly

significant Lincoln letter?

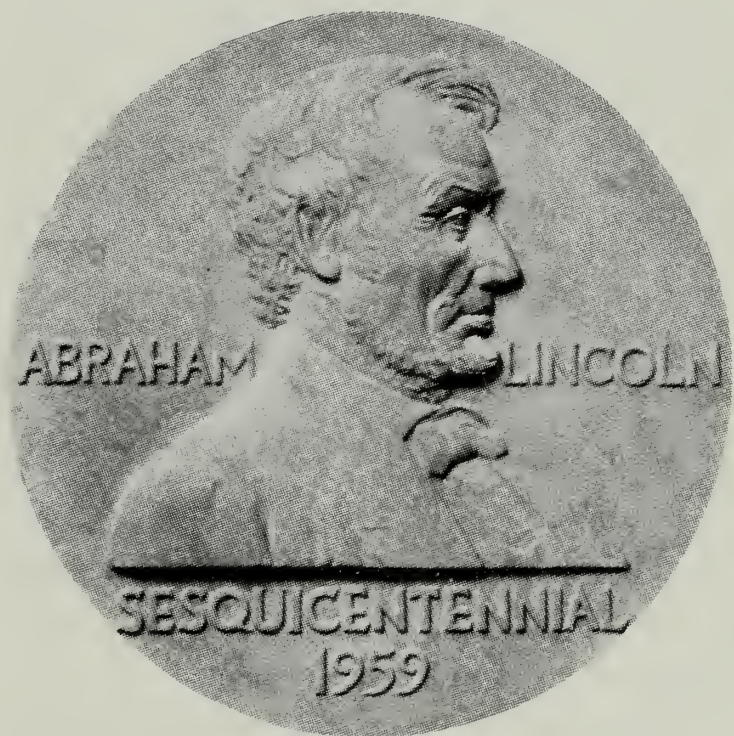
“The treasured Lincoln autograph was written on February 21, 1856 to a Mr. Floyd of Quincy, Ill. It reads:

Dear Sir: I have just received yours of the 16th, with check on Flagg and Savage for \$25. You must think I am a high-priced man. You are too liberal with your money.

Fifteen dollars is enough for the job. I send you a receipt for \$15 and return to you a \$10 bill.

Yours truly,
A. Lincoln

“Adhering to Lincoln’s quality of frugality, the Commission logically enough returned to the Federal treasury \$3,735.87 of the 1958



appropriation and \$32,520.73 of the 1959 appropriation, for a total of \$36,256.60.

“And, Senator John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky, chairman of the Commission, says that there will be an additional amount to refund from the 1960 appropriation when the books are closed.

“How do you like that Lincoln thrift and its \$36,000 dividend to the taxpayers? Did that homespun Lincoln letter of 1856 inspire such administrative economy on the part of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission? It could be!

Herman Blum”

PAY HE DIDN'T EARN

An interesting autograph letter on display in Freedom Hall, in Oak Park, Ill., indicates why Americans refer to Abraham Lincoln as “Honest Abe.” In April, 1861, an unidentified clerk, seeing to it that the newly inaugurated President should receive his first month's pay in full, drafted this presidential letter to Salmon P. Chase, then Secretary of the Treasury:

“Dear Sir:

“On today and on the first of each month, please to send me a warrant for the amount of my salary as President of the United States.”

When the letter was referred to Mr. Lincoln for signature, the President firmly crossed out “first” and made it read “fifth” of each month. Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated March 4, 1861.

That pen scratch of Mr. Lincoln saved the taxpayers \$273.97—based on his \$25,000 annual salary—which he was not entitled to during the first four days of March. It is also proof of Lincoln scrupulous honesty.

The same day the letter was written, Mr. Lincoln opened an account at the Riggs and Co. Bank in Washington, where he deposited the March warrant for \$2,083.33.

Co-founder of Freedom Hall is Philip D. Sang, who acquired the letter last year.

A \$5 RETAINER FEE

To Samuel D. Marshall of Springfield, Ill., Abraham Lincoln wrote as follows on November 11, 1842:

Dear Sam.

Yours of the 10th Oct. enclosing five dollars was taken from the office in my absence by Judge Logan who neglected to hand it to me till about a week ago, and just an hour before I took a wife. Your other of the 3rd. Inst. is also received. The Forbes & Hill case, of which you speak, has not been brought up as yet.

I have looked into the Dorman & Lane case, till I believe I understand the facts of it; and I also believe we can reverse it. In the last I may be mistaken, but I think the case, at least worth the experiment; and if Dorman will risk the cost, I will do my best for the ‘biggest kind of a fee’ as you say, if we succeed, and nothing if we fail. I have not had a chance to consult Logan since I read your letters, but if the case comes up, I can have the use of him if I need him.

I would advise you to procure the Record and send it up immediately. Attend to the making out of the Record yourself, or most likely, the clerk will not get it all together right.

Nothing new here, except my marrying, which to me, is matter of profound wonder.

Yours forever,
A. LINCOLN

The case was reversed by the Illinois Supreme Court, as Lincoln had predicted, but only after considerable litigation. The fee for it was not settled until ten years later, in 1853. It was \$100.00. The Logan referred to in the Marshall letter was Stephen T. Logan, Lincoln's law partner in 1842. The reference to the \$5.00 was a retainer, and being received “an hour before” Lincoln married Mary Todd, was undoubtedly put to good use by the bridegroom.

A LITTLE DRAFT FOR TRIBUNE

To the Chicago *Press and Tribune* Company which early recognized Lincoln's qualifications for high public office and strongly supported him for the Presidency, Lincoln on June 15, 1859, wrote as follows:

Springfield
June 15, 1859

Press & Tribune Co
Gentlemen

Herewith is a little draft to pay for your Daily another year from to-day. I suppose I shall take the Press & Tribune so long as it, and I both live, unless I become unable to pay for it. In its devotion to our cause always, and to me personally last year I owe it a debt of gratitude, which I fear I shall never be able to pay. Yours very truly
A. LINCOLN

Revealing Letters of the Lincoln Era

PENNSYLVANIA FOREBEARS

County Commissioner Richard V. B. Lincoln, of Laurelton, Pa., wrote to Mr. Lincoln on March 19, 1860, suggesting that they were relatives and that Lincoln's grandfather emigrated from Berks County, Pa. Lincoln corrected the latter impression and told all about his ancestors.

Springfield, Ills.
April 6, 1860

Richd. V. B. Lincoln, Esq
My Dear Sir

Owing to absence from home, yours of March 19th. was not received till yesterday. You are a little mistaken. My grand-father did not go from Berks Co. Pa.; but, as I learn, his ancestors did, some time before his birth. He was born in Rockingham Co Va; went from there to Kentucky, and there was killed by Indians about 1784. That the family originally came from Berks, I learned a dozen years ago, by letter, from one of them, then residing at Sparta, Rockingham Co. Va. His name was David Lincoln. I remember, long ago, seeing Austin Lincoln, & Davis Lincoln, said to be sons of Hannaniah, or Annaniah Lincoln, who was said to have been a cousin of my grand-father. I have no doubt you and I are distantly related. I should think from what you say, that you and my father were second cousins.

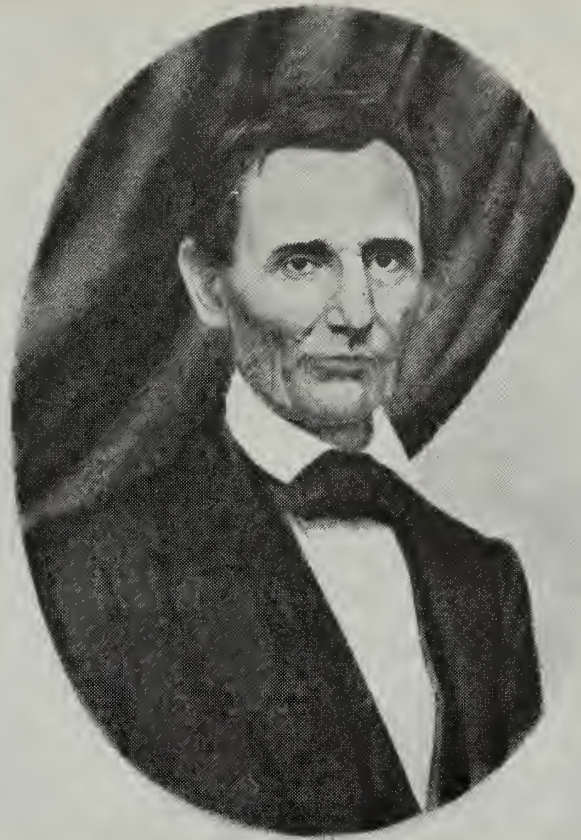
I shall be glad to hear from you at any time.
Yours very truly
A. LINCOLN

CHEMIE M. LEVY

In the measure for raising troops to fight the Confederacy passed by Congress in 1861, the section on chaplains stated that every regimental chaplain must be a "regularly ordained minister of some Christian denomination." There were protests against this discriminatory clause but attempts by amendment to substitute the words "religious society" for "Christian denomination" failed of adoption.

Although there were only about 150,000 Jews in the United States out of a population of 30,000,000 in 1861, they were well represented in the Union Army. President Lincoln agreed to sponsor legislation to rectify the injustice.

Thus, on July 17, 1862, for the first time in our history, it was legal for a rabbi to be commissioned as a chaplain. Soon thereafter a number of Jewish chaplains officiated in the Union Army.



Campaign poster of 1860, engraved by Currier & Ives, showing beardless Lincoln.

Later that year, to make sure that his administration would not tolerate discrimination, President Lincoln took pains to jog the Secretary of War on the subject of the appointment of a quartermaster of Hebrew faith. The President's letter:*

EXECUTIVE MANSION

Washington, Nov. 4, 1862

Hon. Sec. of War.
Sir

I believe we have not yet appointed a Hebrew—Chemie M. Levy, is well vouched, as a capable and faithful man, let him be appointed an Assistant Quartermaster, with the rank of Captain.

Yours truly,
A. Lincoln

LETTER TO GENERAL FREMONT

General John C. Fremont, in command of the Department of Missouri, issued an order on August 30, 1861, declaring martial law throughout the state, justifying it upon the ground of imperative military necessity. Part of the order was the declaration that those

* Autograph letter in possession of Rabbi Bertram W. Korn, Phila., Keneseth Israel.

who took up arms against the United States or took active part with their enemies in the field would have their properties confiscated and their slaves declared free men. President Lincoln wrote to General Fremont the following official letter:

Washington, D. C.
Sept. 11, 1861

Major General John C. Fremont:

Sir: Yours of the 8th, in answer to mine of the 2nd. Inst. is just received. Assuming that you, upon the ground, could better judge of the necessities of your position than I could at this distance, on seeing your proclamation of August 30th. I perceived no general objection to it. The particular clause, however, in relation to the confiscation of property and the liberation of slaves, appeared to me to be objectionable, in its non-conformity to the Act of Congress passed the 6th. of last August upon the same subjects; and hence I wrote you expressing my wish that that clause should be modified accordingly. Your answer, just received, expresses the preference on your part, that I should make an open order for the modification, which I very cheerfully do. It is therefore ordered that the said clause of said proclamation be so modified, held, and construed, as to conform to, and not to transcend, the provisions on the same subject contained in the act of Congress entitled "An Act to confiscate property used for insurrectionary purposes" Approved August 6, 1861; and that said act be published at length with this order. Your Obt. Servt., A. Lincoln.

RIVAL'S GENEROUS, MUCH DELETED LETTER

In a generous, much deleted letter, Salmon P. Chase, one of the contenders for the Republican Presidential nomination in 1860, congratulated his successful rival, Abraham Lincoln. The vote on the first ballot for the Presidential nomination stood as follows: Seward, 173½; Lincoln, 102; Cameron (Simon P., Gov. of Penna.) 50½; Chase, 49. When the roll was called the third time, Lincoln had 231½ votes, with 233 necessary to a choice. Seward had 180. The four votes necessary to nominate Mr. Lincoln were given by Mr. Chase's friends in the stampede to Lincoln, before the result was declared.

In his letter, Chase expressed gratification

over the choice of Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin and discussed the activities of the various state delegations in the convention and the support given Seward by the delegates pledged to him.

Chase was serving his second term as Governor of Ohio when he was nominated; he had been prominent in defending fugitive slaves and was an influential figure in the convention. Following Lincoln's inauguration, Chase was appointed Secretary of the Treasury. The nation's finances had been in a chaotic state, and Chase's administration was hailed as highly successful and won him praise. By 1864, Chase's relations with Lincoln had become strained and he resigned from the Treasury. He then became Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

The letter:

Columbus, May 17, 1860

My dear Sir,

I congratulate you, most heartily, on your nomination; and shall support you, in 1860, as cordially and earnestly as I did in 1858.

The excellent platform adopted and the selection of that true and able man, Hannibal Hamlin, as your associate on the ticket completes my satisfaction with the results of the Convention. They will prove, I am confident, as auspicious to the country as they are honorable to the nominees.

Mr. Seward has much reason to be gratified by the large and cordial support which he received and especially by the generous, unanimous and constant adhesion, without regard to personal preferences, of the entire delegation from his respected State. Doubtless the similar adhesion (to you [crossed out]) of the Illinois delegation affords a higher satisfaction to you than the nomination itself. The only regret I feel connected with the Convention is incited by the failure of the delegation from Ohio to evince the same generous (good faith [crossed out]) spirit. In this regret I am quite sure you must participate; for I err greatly in my estimate of your magnanimity if you do not condemn, as I do, the conduct of delegates from whatever State, who (violate good faith, by disregarding the [crossed out]) disregard, while acting as such. the clearly expressed preference of their (political brethren, explicitly [crossed out]) own State Convention.

Yours cordially,
S. P. Chase

Hon. Abraham Lincoln

BUT WHO MADE IT UP?

Secretary of War Stanton: "Why is McClellan's mind like an unmade bed?"

President Lincoln: "Because it has to be made up for him every time he wants to use it."

What They Say About The "Lincoln Paradox" Address

"Your address on Lincoln deserves the acclaim it has had. It might not be a bad idea to send a copy of it to Friend Khrushchev and the members of his Satellite Group. If you could get this message through to them, the World's troubles would be over."

Harry L. Hoenigsberger
123 No. Wacker Drive
Chicago, Ill.

"May I read your speech before the Men's Forum Club of Scott County at its next meeting? I will, of course, stress to the membership that while I did not write the address, it reflects my sentiments about Lincoln and that it appeared in the Congressional Record."

Horace Walmsley
Mayor, Winchester, Ill

"I have read your 'Lincoln Paradox' address with real interest. You cover the spiritual aspect of Lincoln in a most comprehensive and sympathetic manner—an approach that I have not encountered so articulately elsewhere. So my sincere congratulations on a real contribution to Lincolnia."

William W. Hassler
304 Quigley Ave.
Willow Grove 6, Pa.

"I read your 'Lincoln Paradox' speech twice and want you to know how much inspiration I have received from reading every word of it. When I say every word I mean it, for I am not like the woman I loaned a book about Betsey Ross which was a very fine edition and quite a number of the pages were unslitted. They were that way when the book was returned. However, she said she had read every word of it, and I have wondered how she did it unless she peeked up between the unslitted pages."

"You mention the John T. McCutcheon cartoon. The late Dr. Kincaid of Lincoln Memorial University used a cartoon of H. T. Webster of the New York Herald Tribune in about the same manner. Cartoons of Lincoln have a great fascination for most students of the man."

Elbert B. Rose
(Author of "Journey Through
History")
56 East Ave.
Bridgeton, N. J.

"I am most grateful for the important tribute you paid to that dear and wonderful American martyr whom my father and I have both revered all our lives. And I shall always prize this copy, not only because of the subject but because of the historian-author, H. B., who is loved by all who know him—along with us, too! May God be very good to you all!"

Theron and Katherine Lee
59 West Willow Grove Ave.
Philadelphia 18, Pa.

"Your address before the New Century Club was splendid. I wish it could sink into the consciousness of a lot of people here and in the countries behind the Iron Curtain."

Charles N. Sturtevant, M. D.
Braintree 84, Mass.

"The McCutcheon Cartoon reference in your 'Lincoln Paradox' speech is very apt and reminds me of the dramatization a school teacher wrote after one of her pupils was so intensely stimulated by my Lincoln exhibit. Can you spare a few copies of your address so I can distribute them where they will do the most good?"

Dr. Justin G. Turner
2389 Westwood Blvd.
Los Angeles 64, Calif.

"I go along with most of your conclusions about Lincoln, except about his education. Recent research proves that Abe was no ignorant lout when he came in from Indiana to Illinois. He had acquired (minus a lot of frills) what was equivalent to a high school education and perhaps a self-taught college equivalent. I just don't go for that mystery and miracle business in public life. Lincoln had qualities of genius, which go a long way on a little. I still believe Shakespeare wrote Shakespeare."

Arthur G. McDowell
Executive Secretary, Lincoln Civil
War Society
Philadelphia 21, Pa.

"From your 'Lincoln Paradox' address we learn a great amount of discerning facts about our fascinating hero. The keen perception with which you have been endowed appears to be matched by a facility of expression. The result is magnificent reading, education and inspiration."

Sidney Squire, Judge,
Court of Claims, State of N. Y.,
Chambers, 270 Broadway, N. Y.

"I have read and re-read your Lincoln address which was reprinted in the Congressional Record, and I want to tell you that you have succeeded in inspiring and invoking in the reader the profound esteem in which you regard our greatest personality in the history of our country. May your message be available to many more people. Congratulations on your mastery of a subject of world wide importance."

Sarah Masor
Executive Secretary
National Hay Fever Relief Ass'n.
New York City

"I read with great interest your speech about Abraham Lincoln in the Congressional Record and wish to commend you on its quality of thought and the importance of its message."

"I was considerably impressed with a particular comment: 'If government of the people, by the people, is not to perish from the earth, then neighborly relations of people to people must be promoted to spread on this earth.' It is my belief that one of America's greatest diplomatic endeavors is to encourage such relations in this, the second half of the twentieth century—a mission in which we must all dedicate ourselves."

David O. Maxwell
(Candidate for Congress
6th District of Philadelphia)

"After reading your speech, 'The Lincoln Paradox,' I have placed it in my reference shelf alongside of the Lincoln volume by Carl Sandburg. Your address was well prepared and is informative."

Horace W. Castor
Architects Building
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

"Today is my 79th birthday, and I have nothing but prayers of thanksgiving to God for His never-ending blessings, one of which was His great gift of Abraham Lincoln to this nation. Your address was terrifically inspiring. In 15 minutes it gave me a clearer insight into Lincoln's power—Love. If that power were widespread all our fears would be dissipated. Your speech does you proud!"

Nat. G. Rothstein
272 S. Oakhurst Dr.
Beverly Hills, Calif.

"Dr. Gallagher and I were delighted to have read your address on the Lincoln Paradox."

Mrs. Constance (J. Rosswell)
Gallagher
Sharon, Mass.

"It is wonderful of you, in this day and age, to keep alive the memory and character of Lincoln as an inspiration for young and old."

Ben Weisinger
249 Marcy Ave.
Brooklyn 11, N. Y.

"Are you quite correct in rating Lincoln as being 'far from a spell-binder'? Herndon rated Lincoln's qualities as a speaker down, but what about the famous 'Lost Speech' when even trained newspaper men forgot to take notes? The only man with whom I ever talked who was at Cooper Union said that, after the first few minutes, Lincoln held his audience spellbound, that people forgot all about his voice and his appearance."

Charles A. Jones, Secretary
Ohio Lincoln Sesquicentennial
Committee, Ohio State Museum
Columbus (10), Ohio

"Your speech in the Congressional Record will be added to my Lincoln collection of over 1,000 volumes."

Rex E. Anderson
Wichita, Kans.

"The Lincoln address was quite different from most of those one hears about him. We are happy to have the additional new material about Lincoln."

W. Emerson Reck, V. P.
Wittenberg University
Springfield, Ohio

"Your thoughtful address on Lincoln is timely and appreciated."

Robert I. Wishnick
122 East 42nd. St.
New York 17, N. Y.

"Your fascinating address on Lincoln is a worthwhile contribution to that inexhaustible subject."

Leo Cherne
589 Fifth Ave.
New York 17, N. Y.

"I enjoyed reading your 'Lincoln Paradox' speech—every word of it. I am wondering if you can spare a few extra copies so I can pass them on to friends."

John Berge
Exec. Dir., Alumni Ass'n.
University of Wisconsin

"The Congressional Record report of your Lincoln Paradox speech is interesting. It is an inspiring address. Congratulations."

Benjamin Novak
Frankford High School
Philadelphia, Pa.

"Your Lincoln Paradox is most excellent and timely. We surely are most fortunate to have folks like you who help us to remember the how and why of the USA. In this day and age, with everyone having the 'gimmies', it is difficult sometimes to remember the great philosophies of great men such as Lincoln."

Sara G. Leffler (Sue)
Lebanon, Pa.

"Your address, 'The Lincoln Paradox', made a real contribution to my understanding of Lincoln."

Donald M. Hobart
Senior Vice President
Curtis Publishing Co.
Independence Square
Philadelphia 5, Pa.

"Your Lincoln Paradox is informative and excellent and a valuable addition to my collection."

John Charles Whitaker, M. D.
Riverton, N. J.

"Your address on the Lincoln Paradox is most inspiring and understandable. I truly find solace in your words and strongly believe that there is such a Divine Providence Who 'every now and then intervenes in the affairs of our nation to pick a man to meet a particular crisis.' May I congratulate you on your truly human and intellectual approach. Wish they could read your speech in Russia."

Mrs. M. Brady
1500 North Broad St.
Philadelphia, Pa.

"Your Lincoln Paradox is a fascinating contribution toward our understanding of the character of our peerless Abraham Lincoln. You are to be congratulated."

Carl Haverlin
Broadcast Music, Inc.
589 Fifth Ave.
New York 17, N. Y.

DO WE CLOUD THE TRUTH?

Among the adverse criticisms I received for my categorical description of Lincoln's education and political qualifications, this gem, from a serious Lincoln student, who wouldn't permit the use of his name, must be included in this symposium. Said our dissenter:

"You are guilty of hunting for far-fetched hypotheses about the education of Lincoln. To be sure, he was self-taught, but it was the thorough mastery of fundamentals that made his extraordinary career possible. By suggesting divine intervention in his nomination for the Presidency, you cloud the search for truth and deprecate Lincoln's political acumen, alert intelligence, and human understanding."

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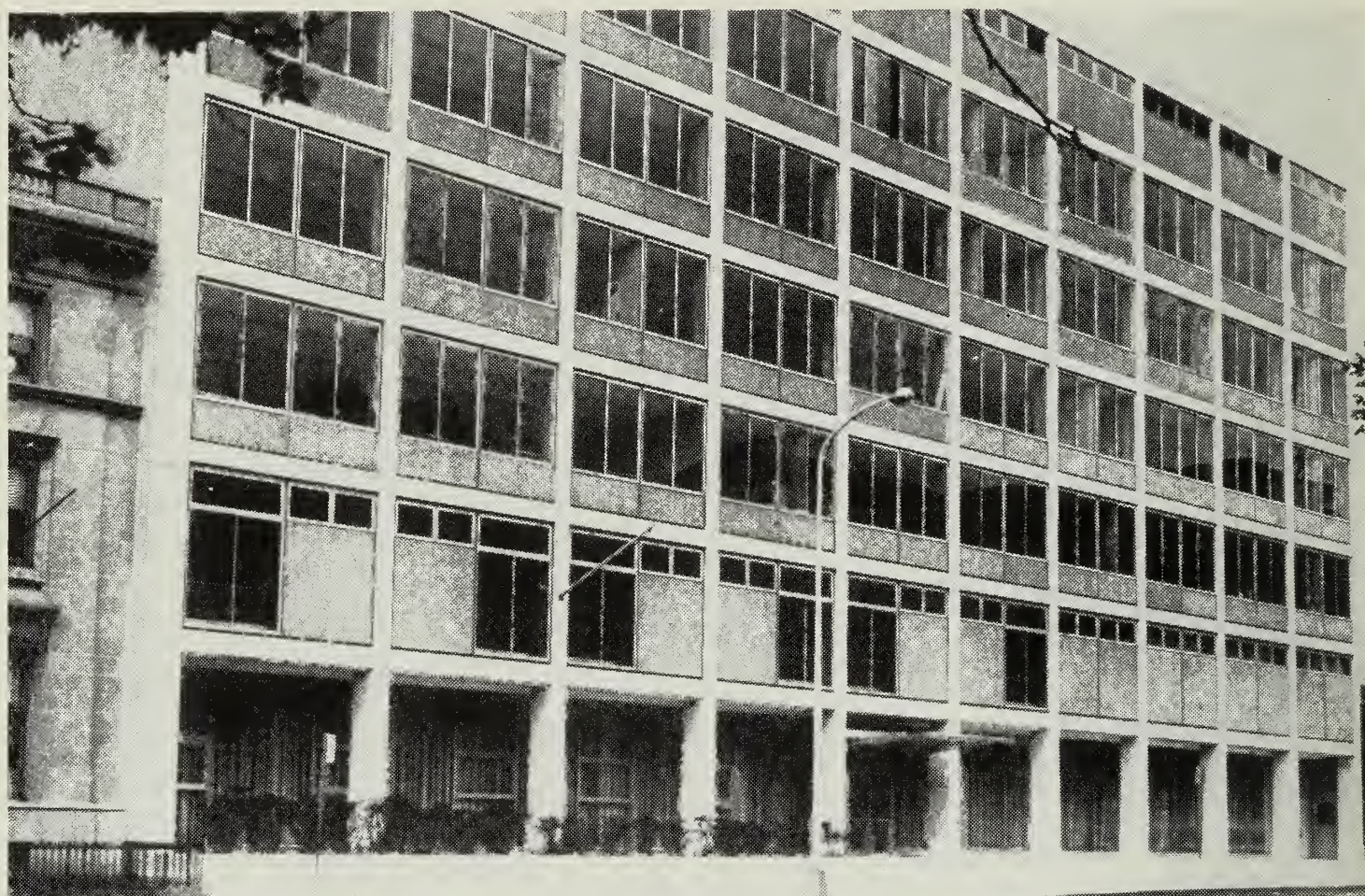
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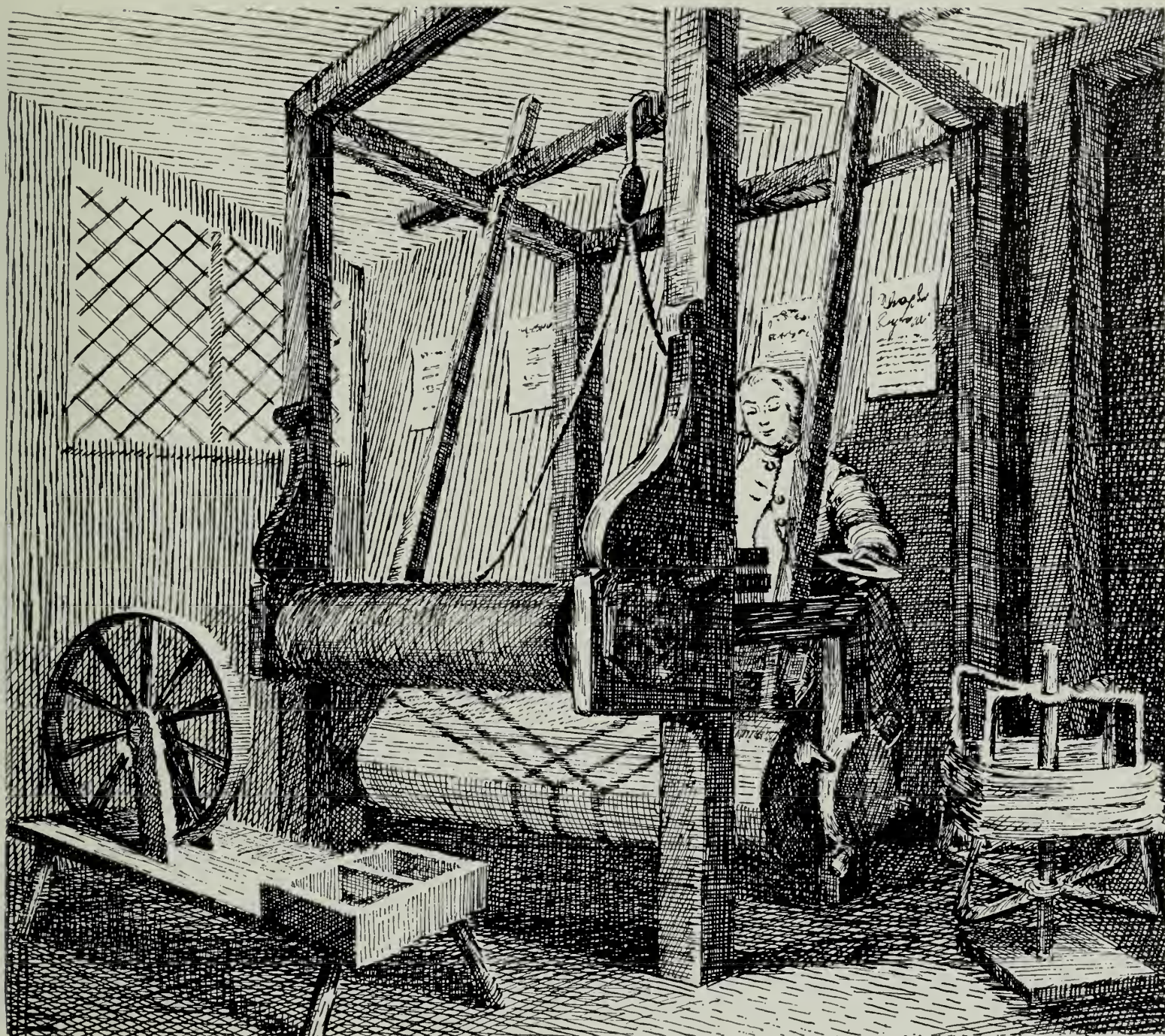
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